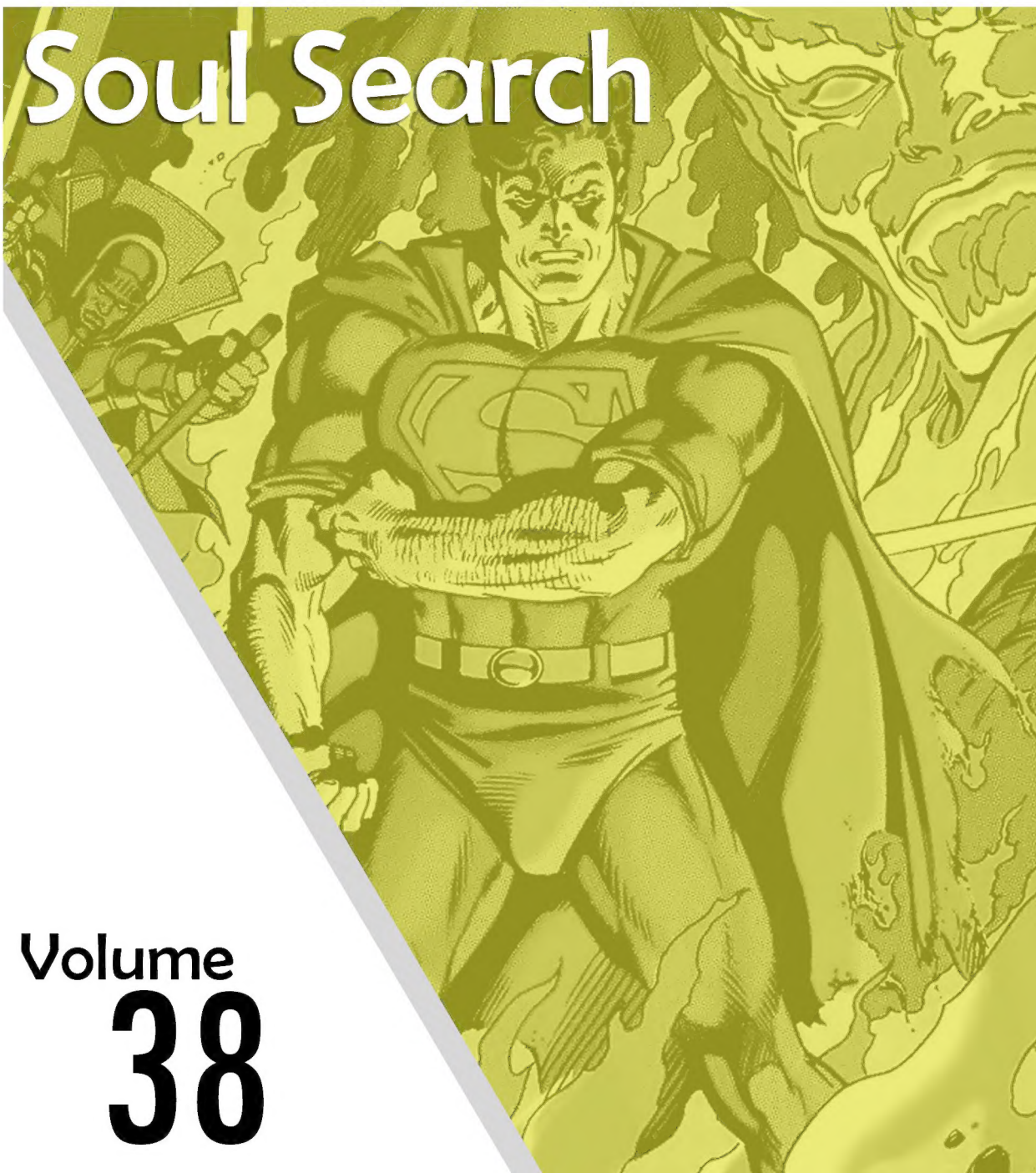
SUPERMAN

Post-CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS

Soul Search



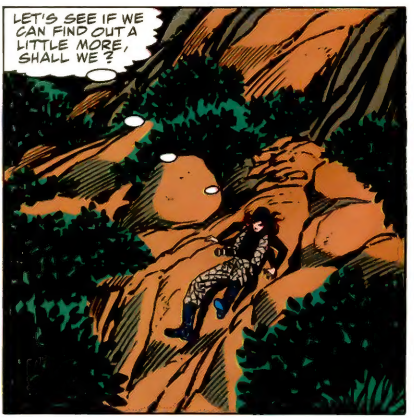
Volume 38

SUPERMAN Post-CRISIS ON INFINITE EARTHS Soul Search 38

WELL, IT'S ABOUT TIME...
TRUCKER HEAVEN
Jordan AVIATION
...I'VE BEEN CROUCHING OUT HERE HALF THE DAY, WAITING FOR SOMETHING TO HAPPEN!
BUT THIS IS GOING TO MAKE IT ALL WORTHWHILE!

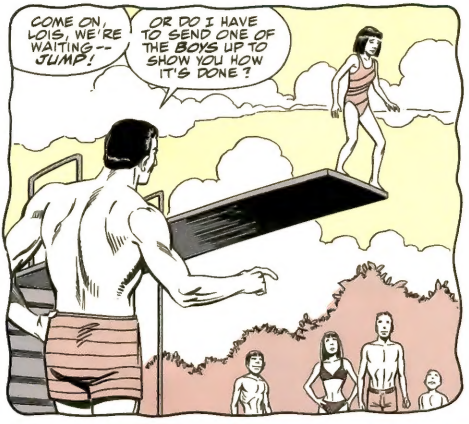
"JUST HOLD THAT POSE!"
KLIK-
WHRR
"THANK YOU!
"I CAN SEE THE HEADLINE NOW... ARMY MUNITIONS THIEVES CAUGHT IN THE ACT... BY LOIS LANE!"

GOTCHA!
THE QUESTION IS, WHO ARE YOU?


LET'S SEE IF WE CAN FIND OUT A LITTLE MORE, SHALL WE?

THAT'S IT?! ONLY FOUR CRATES OF M-16S AND AMMO?
THAT'S ALL I DARED SMUGGLE OUT, KELLY. THINGS ARE GETTING DICEY AT THE BASE... THE BRASS ARE STARTING TO GET WISE.
TELL MORRISON I'LL GET HIM MORE NEXT TIME. NOW GOWAN, GET OUTTA HERE!
KELLY... MORRISON... THAT'S NOT ENOUGH.

I CAN'T LET THEM SLIP AWAY FROM ME, BUT THERE'S NO TIME TO RUN BACK FOR THE CAR.
WHAT DO I DO NOW?

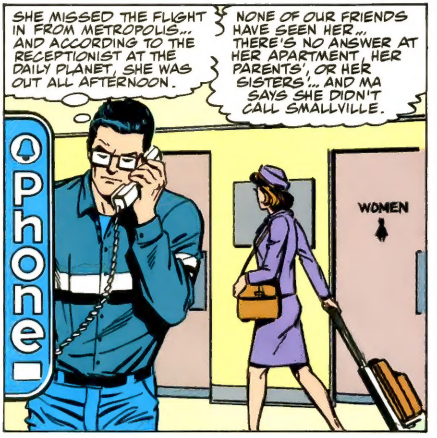

COME ON, LOIS, WE'RE WAITING-- JUMP!
OR DO I HAVE TO SEND ONE OF THE BOYS UP TO SHOW YOU HOW IT'S DONE?

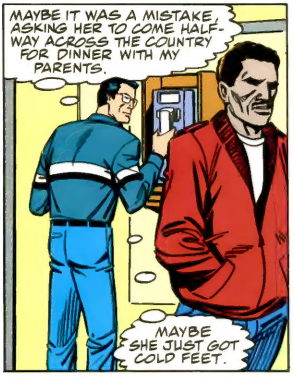
NO WAY, DADDY DEAREST... NO WAY!

HAH! I DID IT!
LET'S SEE CLARK KENT TOP THIS!

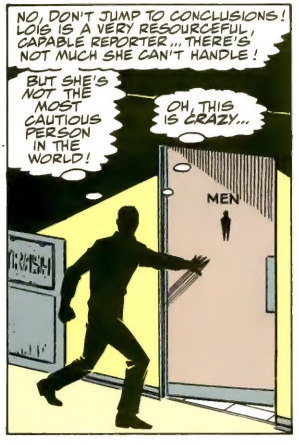
CLARK... OH, NO! I'M AFRAID...

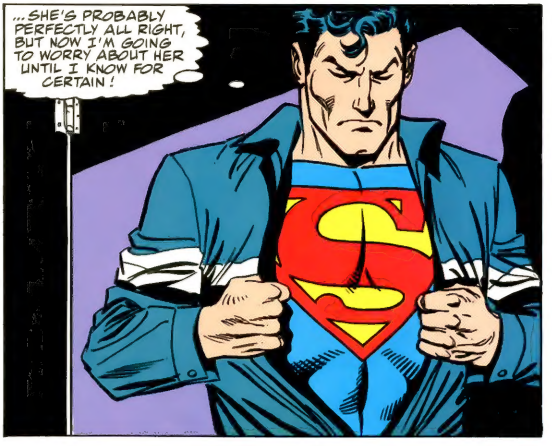
"... I'LL NEVER MAKE OUR DATE NOW!"
WHERE COULD SHE BE?!

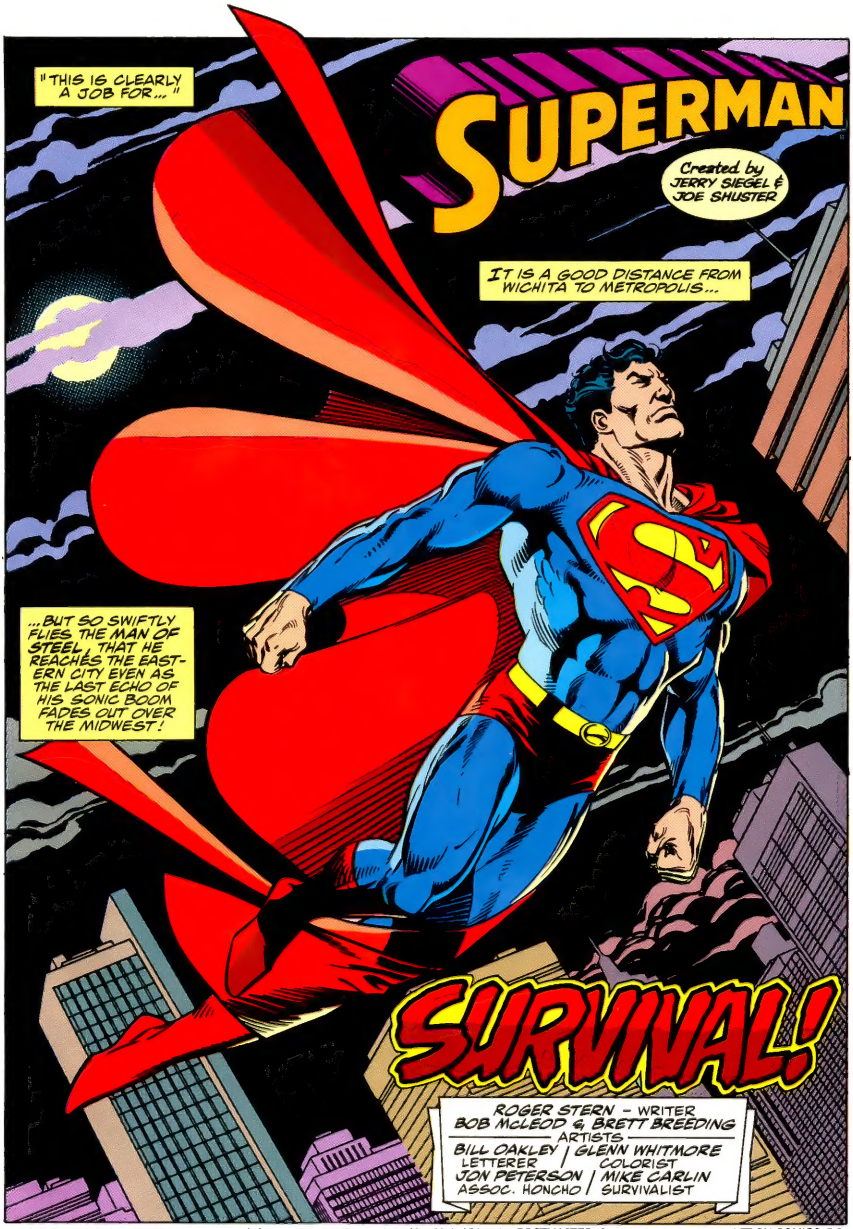

SHE MISSED THE FLIGHT IN FROM METROPOLIS... AND ACCORDING TO THE RECEPTIONIST AT THE DAILY PLANET, SHE WAS OUT ALL AFTERNOON.
NONE OF OUR FRIENDS HAVE SEEN HER... THERE'S NO ANSWER AT HER APARTMENT, HER PARENTS', OR HER SISTERS'... AND MA SAYS SHE DIDN'T CALL SMALLVILLE.
PHONE
WOMEN


MAYBE IT WAS A MISTAKE, ASKING HER TO COME HALF-WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY FOR DINNER WITH MY PARENTS.
MAYBE SHE JUST GOT COLD FEET.

NO. NO, IF THAT WERE THE CASE, LOIS WOULD HAVE CALLED. I'M SURE SHE JUST WENT OUT AFTER A STORY, AND LOST TRACK OF TIME.
I SHOULD HEAD BACK TO SMALLVILLE. SHE'LL CALL WHEN SHE GETS THE CHANCE... UNLESS... SHE'S GOTTEN HERSELF INTO SOME KIND OF TROUBLE!


NO, DON'T JUMP TO CONCLUSIONS! LOIS IS A VERY RESOURCEFUL, CAPABLE REPORTER... THERE'S NOT MUCH SHE CAN'T HANDLE!
BUT SHE'S NOT THE MOST CAUTIOUS PERSON IN THE WORLD!
OH, THIS IS CRAZY...
MEN


... SHE'S PROBABLY PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT, BUT NOW I'M GOING TO WORRY ABOUT HER UNTIL I KNOW FOR CERTAIN!


"THIS IS CLEARLY A JOB FOR... "
SUPERMAN
Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER
IT IS A GOOD DISTANCE FROM WICHITA TO METROPOLIS...
...BUT SO SWIFTLY FLIES THE MAN OF STEEL, THAT HE REACHES THE EASTERN CITY EVEN AS THE LAST ECHO OF HIS SONIC BOOM FADES OUT OVER THE MIDWEST!
SURVIVAL!
ROGER STERN - WRITER
BOB McLEOD & BRETT BREEDING
ARTISTS
BILL OAKLEY / GLENN WHITMORE
LETTERER / COLORIST
JON PETERSON / MIKE CARLIN
ASSOC. HONCHO / SURVIVALIST

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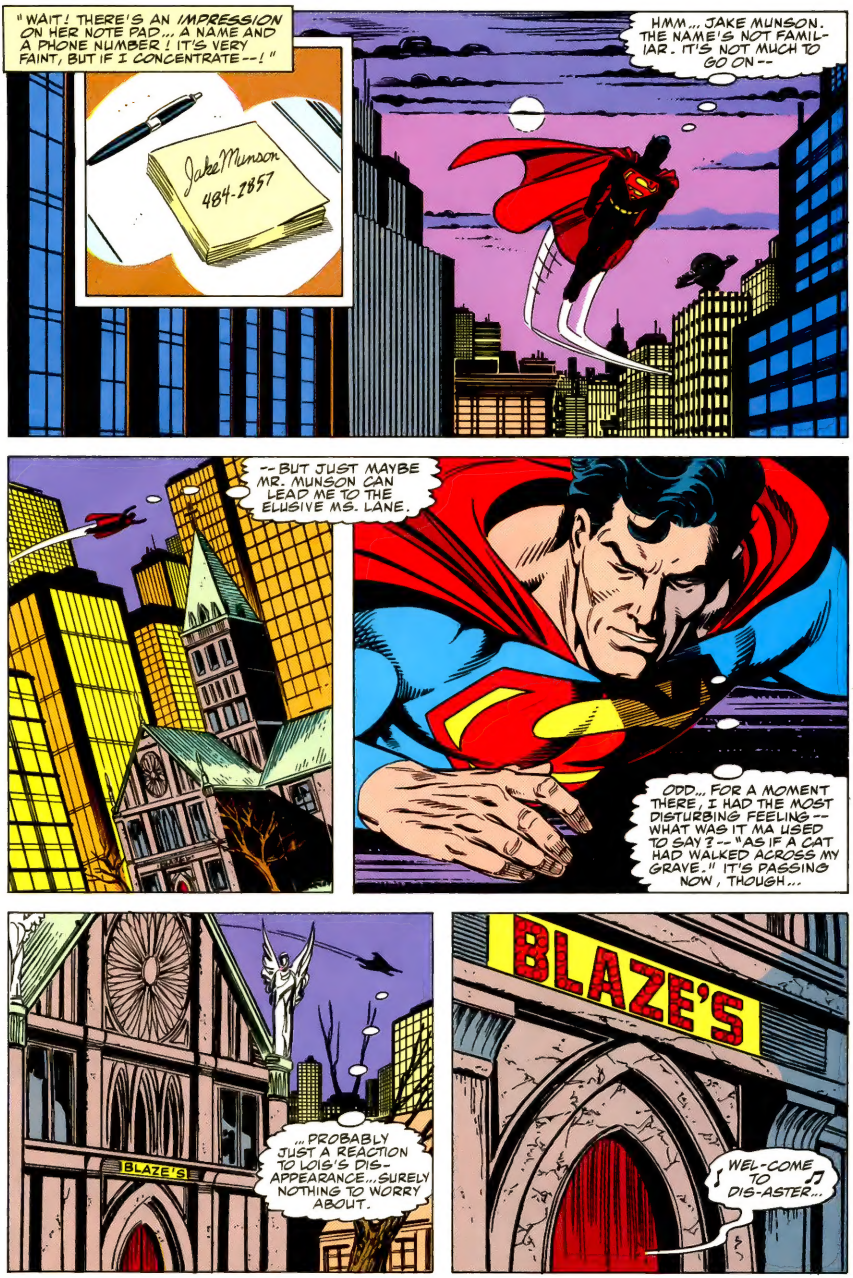
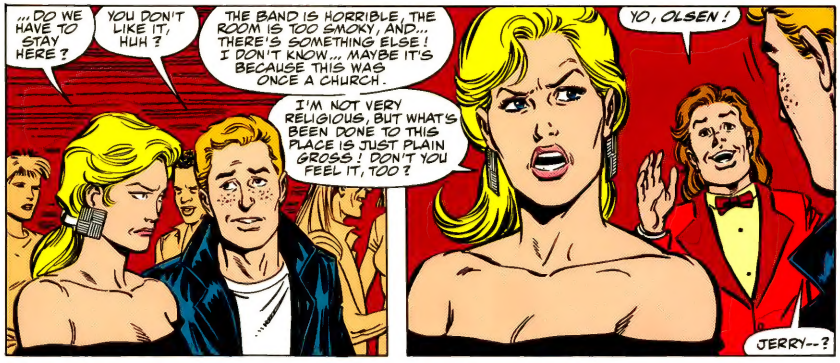
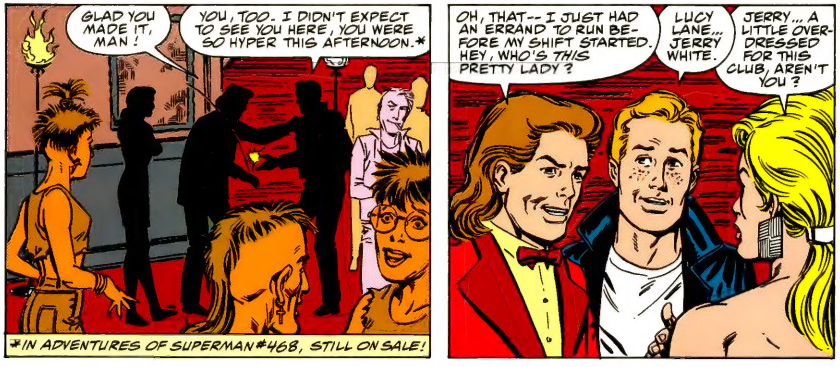
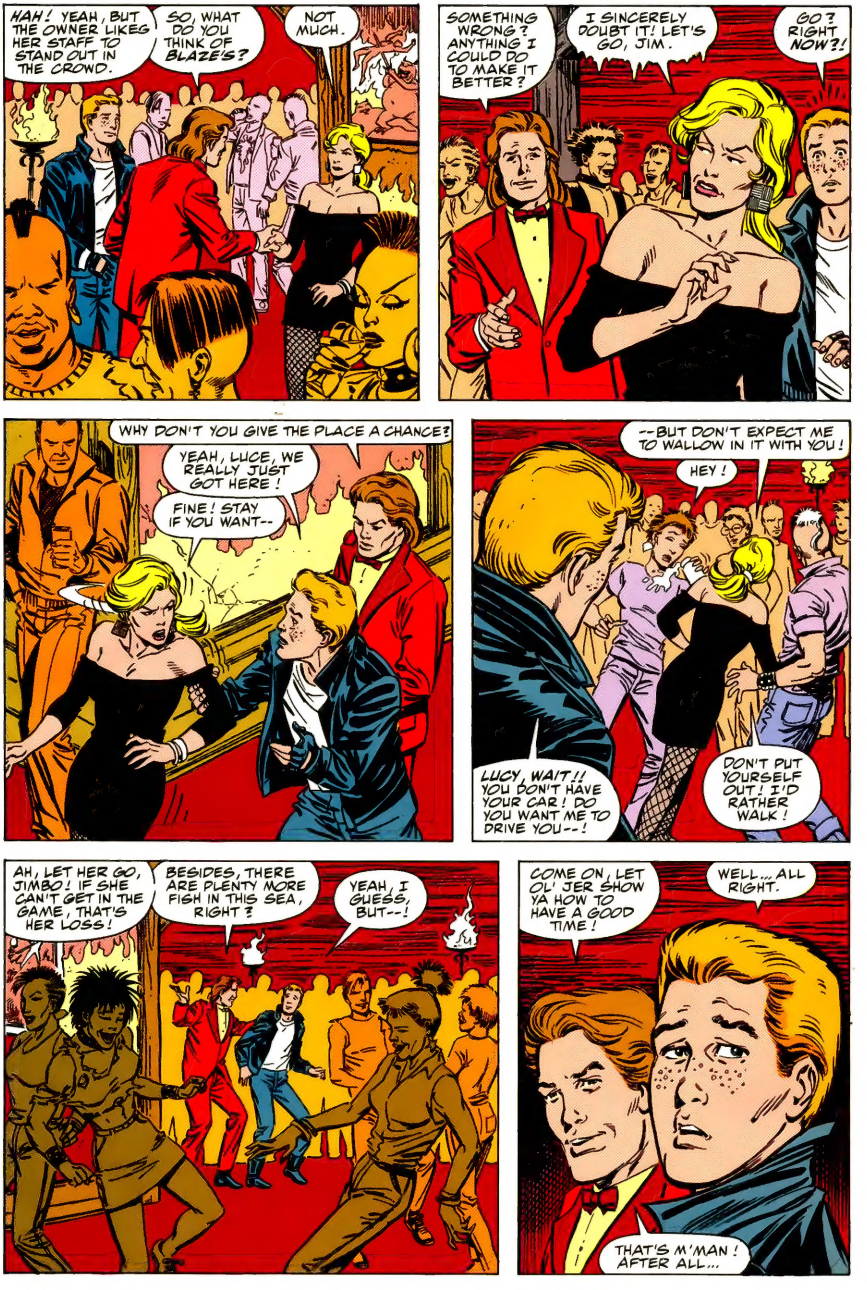
WHEN I WAS IN TOWN EARLIER TODAY, I SLIPPED AND MENTIONED DINNER TO LOIS-- WHILE IN COSTUME! I DON'T THINK SHE CAUGHT IT...
...BUT AFTER I DISCOVERED THAT SHE'D MISSED HER FLIGHT, I BRIEFLY ENTERTAINED THE NOTION THAT SHE HAD STOOD CLARK UP FOR SUPERMAN.
HOW COULD I HAVE THOUGHT THAT OF LOIS? SHE'D NEVER BE SO CRUEL.
MAYBE SHE STOPPED BACK IN HERE AT THE PLANET... IT'S BEEN AWHILE SINCE I LAST CALLED--!
NO... HER DESK IS VACANT. I'M NOT SEEING ANY LINGERING HEAT IMAGES...
...NO ONE'S BEEN IN THAT CHAIR FOR AT LEAST SIX HOURS.
WHERE ARE YOU, LOIS?!

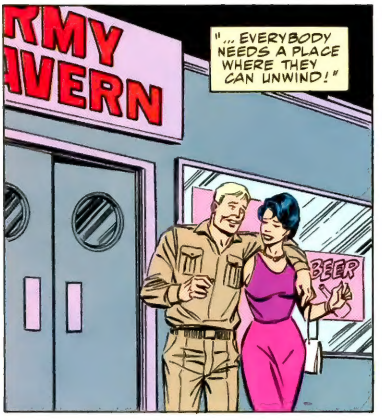

"WAIT! THERE'S AN IMPRESSION ON HER NOTE PAD... A NAME AND A PHONE NUMBER! IT'S VERY FAINT, BUT IF I CONCENTRATE--!"
Jake Munson
484-2857
HMM... JAKE MUNSON. THE NAME'S NOT FAMILIAR. IT'S NOT MUCH TO GO ON--
--BUT JUST MAYBE MR. MUNSON CAN LEAD ME TO THE ELUSIVE MS. LANE.
ODD... FOR A MOMENT THERE, I HAD THE MOST DISTURBING FEELING--WHAT WAS IT MA USED TO SAY?--"AS IF A CAT HAD WALKED ACROSS MY GRAVE." IT'S PASSING NOW, THOUGH...
BLAZE'S
...PROBABLY JUST A REACTION TO LOIS'S DISAPPEARANCE...SURELY NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.
BLAZE'S
♪ WEL-COME TO DIS-ASTER... ♫


...DO WE HAVE TO STAY HERE?
YOU DON'T LIKE IT, HUH?
THE BAND IS HORRIBLE, THE ROOM IS TOO SMOKY, AND... THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE! I DON'T KNOW... MAYBE IT'S BECAUSE THIS WAS ONCE A CHURCH.
I'M NOT VERY RELIGIOUS, BUT WHAT'S BEEN DONE TO THIS PLACE IS JUST PLAIN GROSS! DON'T YOU FEEL IT, TOO?
YO, OLSEN!
JERRY--?

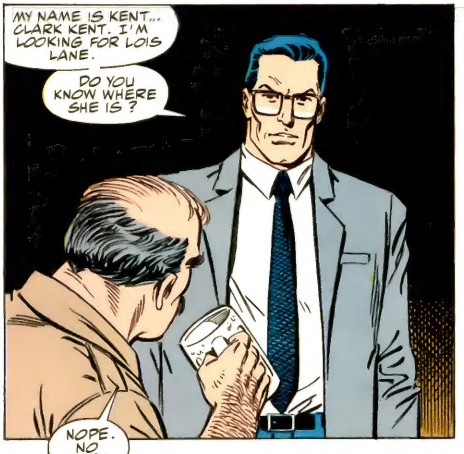

GLAD YOU MADE IT, MAN!
YOU, TOO. I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU HERE, YOU WERE SO HYPER THIS AFTERNOON.*
OH, THAT-- I JUST HAD AN ERRAND TO RUN BEFORE MY SHIFT STARTED. HEY, WHO'S THIS PRETTY LADY?
LUCY LANE... JERRY WHITE.
JERRY... A LITTLE OVERDRESSED FOR THIS CLUB, AREN'T YOU?

*IN ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #468, STILL ON SALE!

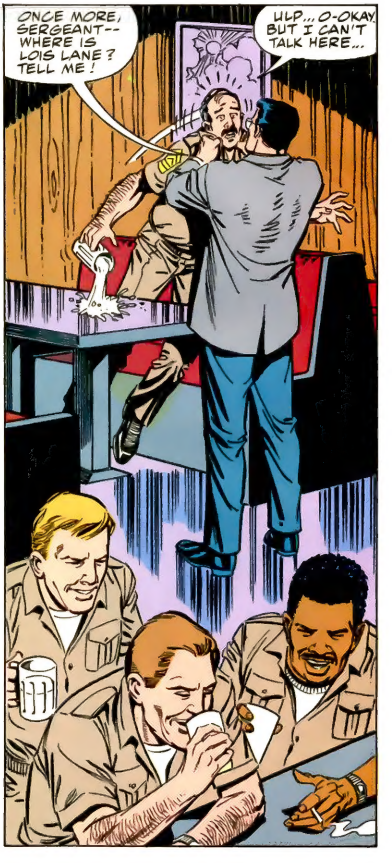

KAH! YEAH, BUT THE OWNER LIKES HER STAFF TO STAND OUT IN THE CROWD.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK OF BLAZE'S?
NOT MUCH.
SOMETHING WRONG? ANYTHING I COULD DO TO MAKE IT BETTER?
I SINCERELY DOUBT IT! LET'S GO, JIM.
GO? RIGHT NOW?!
WHY DON'T YOU GIVE THE PLACE A CHANCE?
YEAH, LUCE, WE REALLY JUST GOT HERE!
FINE! STAY IF YOU WANT--
--BUT DON'T EXPECT ME TO WALLOW IN IT WITH YOU!
HEY!
LUCY, WAIT!! YOU DON'T HAVE YOUR CAR! DO YOU WANT ME TO DRIVE YOU--!
DON'T PUT YOURSELF OUT! I'D RATHER WALK!
AH, LET HER GO, JIMBO! IF SHE CAN'T GET IN THE GAME, THAT'S HER LOSS!
BESIDES, THERE ARE PLENTY MORE FISH IN THIS SEA, RIGHT?
YEAH, I GUESS, BUT--!
COME ON, LET OL' JER SHOW YA HOW TO HAVE A GOOD TIME!
WELL... ALL RIGHT.
THAT'S M'MAN! AFTER ALL...


RMY
IVERN
"... EVERYBODY NEEDS A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN UNWIND!"
BEER

JAKE MUNSON?
WHO WANTS TO KNOW?

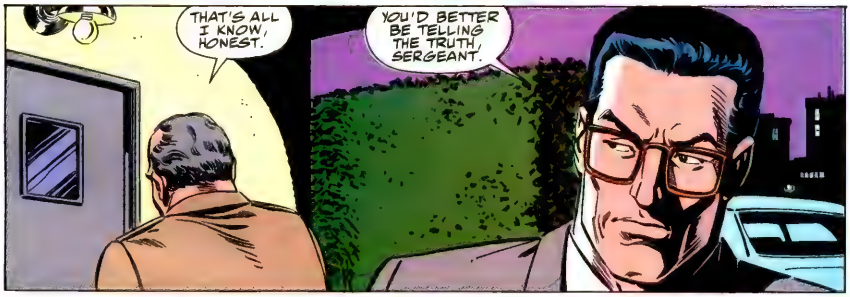

MY NAME IS KENT... CLARK KENT. I'M LOOKING FOR LOIS LANE.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE SHE IS?

NOPE. NO IDEA.
WHY DON'T YOU TRY TAKIN' OUT AN AD IN THE PERSONALS?
YOU KNOW MORE THAN YOU'RE SAYING.
BUZZ OFF.


ONCE MORE, SERGEANT-- WHERE IS LOIS LANE? TELL ME!
ULP... O-OKAY BUT I CAN'T TALK HERE...

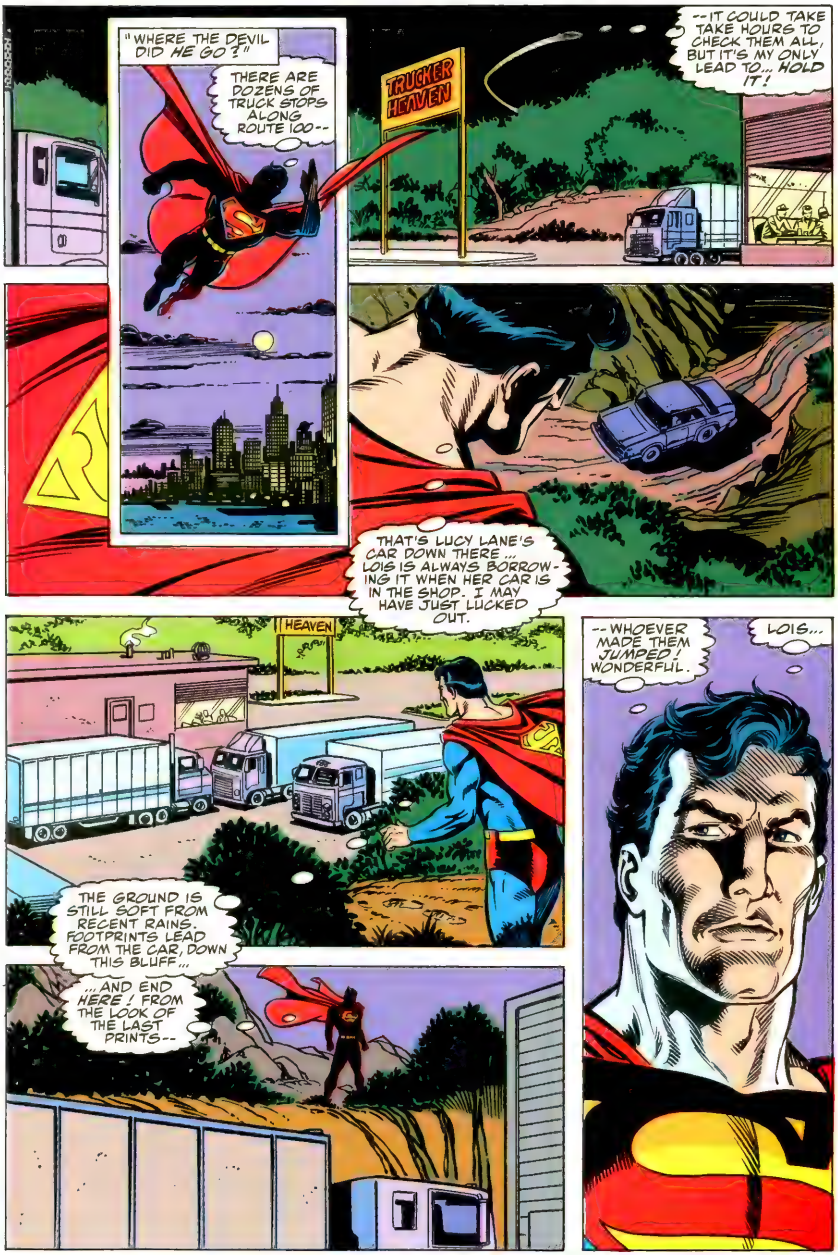
"...LET'S GO OUT BACK."
ALL RIGHT, TALK!
SHH, NOT SO LOUD!
FIRST OFF, I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE LADY IS. BUT I HEARD O' YOU... I KNOW YOU WORK FOR THE SAME PAPER--
--SO I GUESS SHE WON'T MIND IF I TELL YOU 'BOUT HER STORY.

LOOK, LOIS WAS SUPPOSED TO MEET ME THIS EVENING AND SHE NEVER SHOWED UP. WHAT'S THIS ABOUT A STORY?
IT'S LIKE THIS... OVER THE PAST FEW MONTHS, A LOTTA HARDWARE'S GONE MISSIN' AT THE FORT-- EVERY-THING FROM SERVICE REVOLVERS ON UP TO HELICOPTER PARTS!
THE BRASS HAVE TRIED TO KEEP THINGS HUSHED UP, BUT I'M IN SUPPLY AND I HEAR A LOT OF STUFF, YA KNOW? ANYWAY, I'VE BEEN PASSIN' INFO TO THE LADY.
LAST I TALKED TO HER WAS THIS MORNIN'... SHE SAID SHE FIGURED THAT THE GEAR WAS BEIN' BOOSTED FROM SUPPLY CONVOYS AT SOME TRUCK STOP OUT ON ROUTE 100.


THAT'S ALL I KNOW, HONEST.
YOU'D BETTER BE TELLING THE TRUTH, SERGEANT.

LISTEN, KENT, I'VE KNOWN LANEY AND HER FAMILY FOR A LONG TIME! THE LAST THING I WANT IS FOR--?

KENT?


"WHERE THE DEVIL DID HE GO?"
THERE ARE DOZENS OF TRUCK STOPS ALONG ROUTE 100--
TRUCKER HEAVEN
--IT COULD TAKE HOURS TO CHECK THEM ALL, BUT IT'S MY ONLY LEAD TO... HOLD IT!
THAT'S LUCY LANE'S CAR DOWN THERE... LOIS IS ALWAYS BORROWING IT WHEN HER CAR IS IN THE SHOP. I MAY HAVE JUST LUCKED OUT.
HEAVEN
THE GROUND IS STILL SOFT FROM RECENT RAINS. FOOTPRINTS LEAD FROM THE CAR, DOWN THIS BLUFF...
...AND END HERE! FROM THE LOOK OF THE LAST PRINTS--
--WHOEVER MADE THEM JUMPED! WONDERFUL.
LOIS...

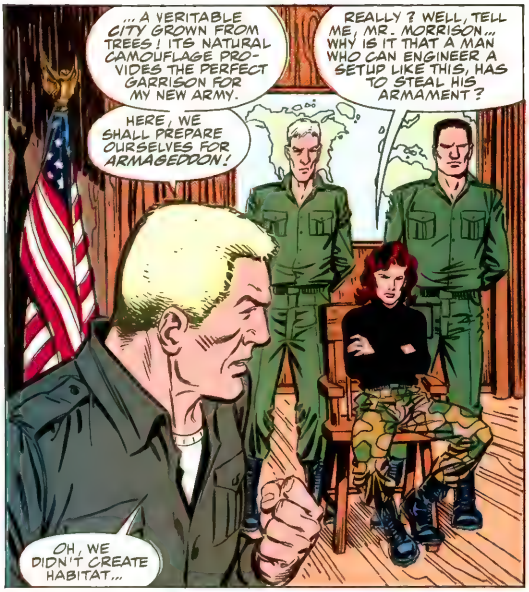
"...WHAT HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOURSELF INTO THIS TIME?"
I AM TOTALLY TURNED AROUND NOW! THE TRUCK TURNED OFF THE ROAD A GOOD THREE MILES BACK, AND I CAN'T EVEN SEE THE MOON FOR ALL OF THE TREES...
...AND THE DUST! THIS ISN'T DOING MY SINUSES ANY FAVORS!
'CHOO!
WE'RE STOPPING! UH-OH... DID THEY HEAR ME?
NO, I DON'T THINK SO. WHAT'S THAT? LOOKS LIKE SOME KIND OF--
HMMMM
KLUNK
...GARAGE DOOR OPENER?
I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS!
THIS PASSAGE IS AS WIDE AS AN INTER-STATE HIGHWAY... AND IT SEEMS TO GO ON FOR MILES!
WHAT HAVE I GOTTEN MYSELF INTO THIS TIME?
OH... MY... GOD...

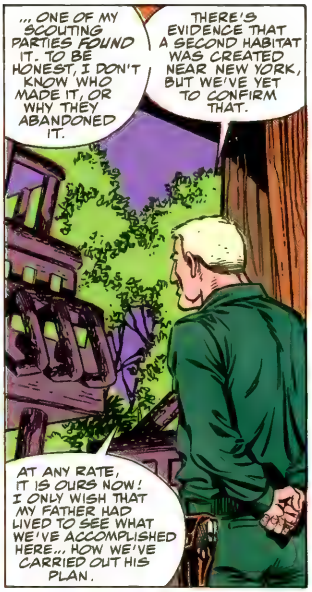
"... THE NAZIS HAVE TAKEN OVER FAIRY LAND!"
WE'VE GOT AN INTRUDER! SOUND THE ALARM!
WO-OOP WOOP WOOP
YOU THERE --STOP THAT TRUCK!

THINK FAST, LOIS!
DON'T SHOOT!
PLEASE, DON'T SHOOT! I DIDN'T MEAN TO--OWW!!
MY ANKLE! MY ANKLE!
COME ON... EASY DOES IT! ARE YOU ABLE TO STAND?
JUST FINE-- THANKS!
GAAAHH!
KRAK
FORTUNATELY, NO MAN IS STRONGER THAN HIS INSTEP!
KL 192
WHAT'S GOIN' ON OUT THERE?
THAT @#&%!! BROKE MY FOOT!
SHE WON'T GET FAR!
SAYS YOU! A FEW LIVE ROUNDS OVER THEIR HEADS SHOULD DISCOURAGE PURSUIT--

--LONG ENOUGH FOR ME TO FIND A GOOD HOLE TO HIDE IN!
NOTHING DOWN HERE ... I'LL HAVE TO TAKE THE HIGH ROAD AND HOPE FOR THE BEST.
WHAT WAS THAT? VOICES?
OPERATION: STOCKPILE IS NEARLY COMPLETE. NOTHING WILL BE ABLE TO STOP US NOW!
OH, YEAH?
HOLD IT RIGHT... THERE.
WELL! MISS LANE, ISN'T IT?
YES, WHAT OTHER MEMBER OF THE PRESS WOULD announce HER ARRIVAL WITH GUNS BLAZING?
YOU SEE, I'VE BEEN TRACKING YOUR PROGRESS. COME IN, WE MUST... TALK.
"LOIS WAS NEVER ONE TO LET CAUTION GET IN THE WAY OF A STORY..."

...SHE MUST HAVE BEEN ONTO SOMETHING BIG. EVERYTHING I FOUND SUGGESTS THAT SHE JUMPED ONTO THE BACK OF A LARGE TRUCK.
AND THE MOST RECENT SET OF TIRE TRACKS NEAR THE BLUFF WHERE SHE JUMPED LED OUT OF THE PARKING AREA TO THIS BACK ROAD.
UNFORTUNATELY, THE NIGHT'S TURNING COOL... THE RESIDUAL HEAT TRAIL OF THE TRUCK I WANT TO FIND IS STARTING TO DISSIPATE.
A GOOD THING THERE ISN'T MUCH TRAFFIC OUT THIS WAY--OTHERWISE, I MIGHT NEVER FIND IT.
THERE... THAT MUST BE IT! THE HOT SPOT ON TOP WOULD BE LOIS!
"HMMM... YES, RECENT TREAD MARKS MATCH THE ONES I FOUND BACK AT THE TRUCK STOP. BUT WHY WOULD THEY HEAD OFF DOWN THIS OLD DIRT ROAD?"
THERE'S NOTHING IN THAT DIRECTION FOR MILES AND MILES... EXCEPT...
"HABITAT, MISS LANE..."


...A VERITABLE CITY GROWN FROM TREES! ITS NATURAL CAMOUFLAGE PROVIDES THE PERFECT GARRISON FOR MY NEW ARMY.
REALLY? WELL, TELL ME, MR. MORRISON... WHY IS IT THAT A MAN WHO CAN ENGINEER A SETUP LIKE THIS, HAS TO STEAL HIS ARMAMENT?
HERE, WE SHALL PREPARE OURSELVES FOR ARMAGEDDON!
OH, WE DIDN'T CREATE HABITAT...

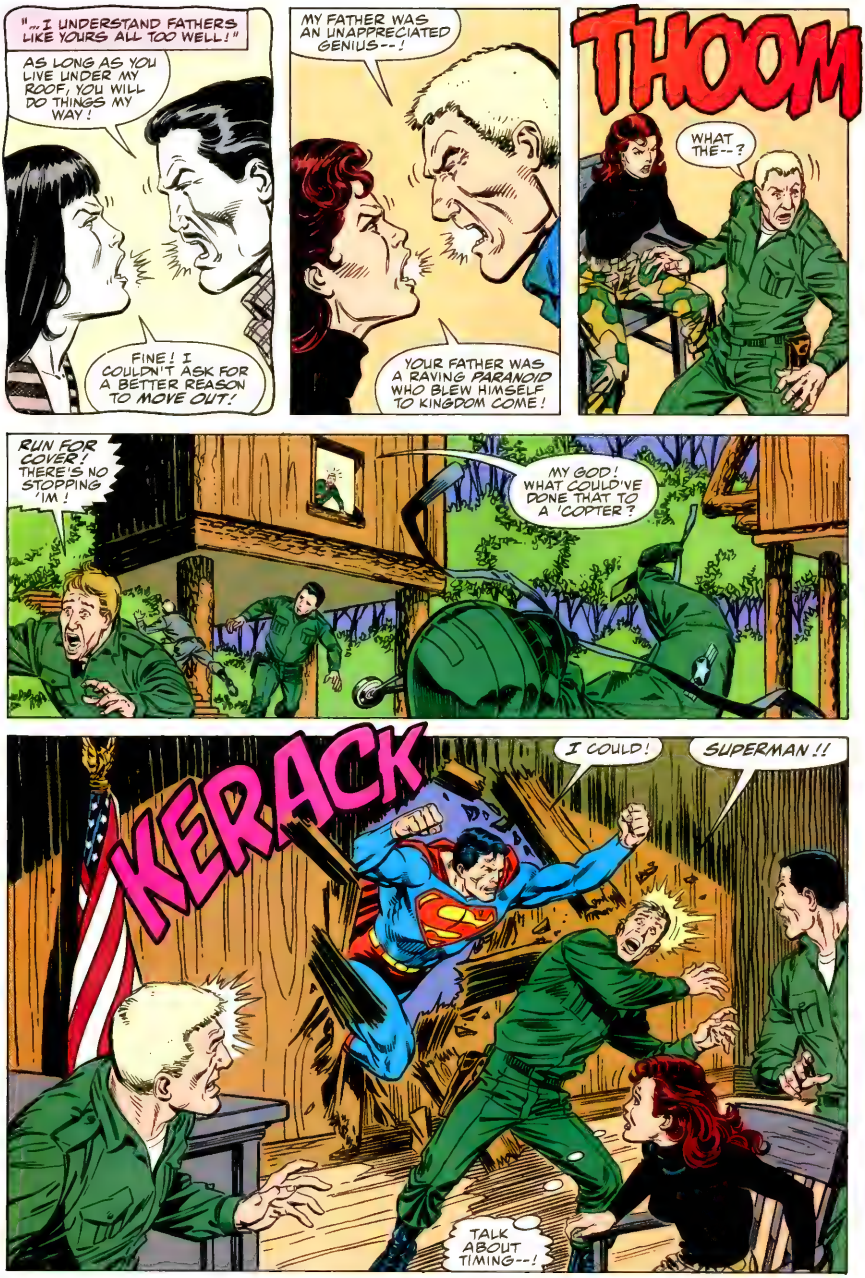

...ONE OF MY SCOUTING PARTIES FOUND IT. TO BE HONEST, I DON'T KNOW WHO MADE IT, OR WHY THEY ABANDONED IT.
THERE'S EVIDENCE THAT A SECOND HABITAT WAS CREATED NEAR NEW YORK, BUT WE'VE YET TO CONFIRM THAT.
AT ANY RATE, IT IS OURS NOW! I ONLY WISH THAT MY FATHER HAD LIVED TO SEE WHAT WE'VE ACCOMPLISHED HERE... HOW WE'VE CARRIED OUT HIS PLAN.

MY FATHER WAS A MAN OF REMARKABLE FORESIGHT, MISS LANE. HE SAW THE "END" OF THE COLD WAR FOR THE SHAM IT IS! HE KNEW THAT WE HAD TO PREPARE FOR THE ENEMY'S FINAL ASSAULT...
...TO PREPARE TO FIGHT, THAT AMERICA WOULD SURVIVE! THE ARMY I HAVE FORGED WAS HIS DREAM... A DREAM HE FOUGHT AND DIED FOR.
YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME ABOUT JOHN MORRISON--

--I RAN INTO HIM AND HIS PRIVATE ARMY ONCE.* I WASN'T IMPRESSED.
MY FATHER WAS A MAN OF GREATNESS--OF DISCIPLINE! THAT'S SOMETHING YOU WOULD NEVER UNDERSTAND!
*IN ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #439.

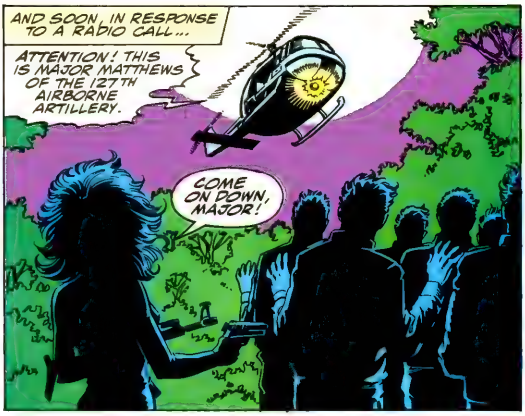
NO. NO! NO!! HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SHOW YOU, LOIS?! WHAT DID I DO TO DESERVE THIS?
A SON WOULD UNDERSTAND!

YOU'RE WRONG. I DO UNDERSTAND...

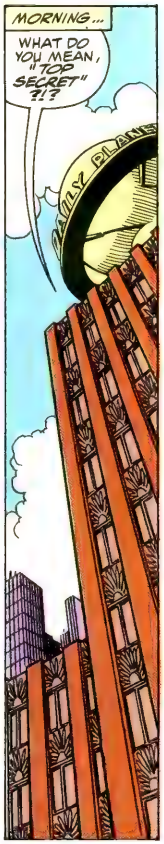

"...I UNDERSTAND FATHERS LIKE YOURS ALL TOO WELL!"
AS LONG AS YOU LIVE UNDER MY ROOF, YOU WILL DO THINGS MY WAY!
FINE! I COULDN'T ASK FOR A BETTER REASON TO MOVE OUT!
MY FATHER WAS AN UNAPPRECIATED GENIUS--!
YOUR FATHER WAS A RAVING PARANOID WHO BLEW HIMSELF TO KINGDOM COME!
THOOM
WHAT THE--?
RUN FOR COVER! THERE'S NO STOPPING 'IM!
MY GOD! WHAT COULD'VE DONE THAT TO A 'COPTER?
KERACK
I COULD!
SUPERMAN!!
TALK ABOUT TIMING--!

WHOOOAAP!
H-HALT! SURRENDER OR... OR I'LL FIRE!
NO NEED FOR THAT...
... NO NEED AND NO POINT!
WHUMP
GET BACK! I HAVE TEFLON-COATED BULLETS IN... MY...
LOOKING FOR THIS?
IT SEEMS YOU HAVE THINGS WELL IN HAND, LOIS.
I DO NOW! THANKS.
I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU FOUND ME, BUT I SHOULDN'T HAVE ANY MORE TROUBLE FROM ROBIN HOOD HERE. GO ON...

"... I'LL LEAVE IT TO YOU TO ROUND UP HIS MERRY MEN!"
A DOZEN ALARMS SPLIT THE AIR, AS MEN RUSH TO ABANDON HABITAT... BUT NO MATTER WHERE THEY GO, NO MATTER WHERE THEY TURN--
--SUPERMAN IS THERE!
ONE BY ONE, ALL AVENUES OF RETREAT ARE CUT OFF.
THE SOLDIERS OF THIS PRIVATE ARMY ARE HARDENED MEN... EX-SOLDIERS, MERCENARIES, FANATIC SUPER-PATRIOTS... DESPERATELY THEY TRY TO RESIST CAPTURE--
--BUT THEIR WEAPONS ARE USELESS AGAINST HIM.
IN A MATTER OF MINUTES, IT IS ALL OVER.


AND SOON, IN RESPONSE TO A RADIO CALL...
ATTENTION! THIS IS MAJOR MATTHEWS OF THE 127TH AIRBORNE ARTILLERY.
COME ON DOWN, MAJOR!

SUPERMAN SAID TO GIVE YOU HIS REGRETS TOO BAD YOU MISSED OUT ON ALL OF THE FUN!
YOU WANT TO SIGN FOR THESE JERKS?


MORNING...
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "TOP SECRET"?!?
DAILY PLANET

CHIEF, I RISKED MY NECK TO UNCOVER THE PARTY BEHIND THOSE MUNITIONS THEFTS! DON'T TELL ME MY STORY'S KILLED BECAUSE THE ARMY WANTS TO COVER ITS COLLECTIVE BEHIND?!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT, LOIS...

THANKS TO YOUR WORK, THE ARMY IS NO LONGER DENYING THE THEFTS. BUT COL. BOGART SAYS THERE'S A SECURITY MATTER IN THE MIX.
SECURITY?!
CORRECT, MS. LANE. HABITAT IS THE OFFSHOOT OF A CLASSIFIED PROJECT.* ITS EXISTENCE MUST BE KEPT AS MUCH A SECRET AS POSSIBLE.
*KNOWN TO LONGTIME READERS AS THE CADMUS PROJECT!

YOU ARE, OF COURSE, FREE TO RUN YOUR STORY ABOUT MORRISON'S SURVIVALISTS AND THEIR THEFTS, AS LONG AS HABITAT IS NOT MENTIONED AND NO PHOTOS OF THE AREA ARE RUN.
I DON'T LIKE IT ANY MORE THAN YOU DO, LOIS--

--BUT HALF A LOAF IS BETTER THAN NONE.
ACTUALLY, MS. LANE, THE ARMY OWES YOU A DEBT...
DON'T MENTION IT, COLONEL.

SHORTLY...
'MORNING, EARLY BIRD!
CLARK! WHAT'RE YOU--? THAT'S LUCY'S CAR! HOW DID YOU--?
WHOA! ONE QUESTION AT A TIME, OKAY?
PLANET
DAILY PLANET
SUPERMAN TOLD ME YOU'D GOTTEN DELAYED ON A STORY... AND THAT YOU'D HAD TO LEAVE YOUR SISTER'S CAR OUT IN THE COUNTRY.
I THOUGHT I'D BRING IT BACK FOR YOU.
CLARK, ABOUT LAST NIGHT--! I'M SORRY... THE STORY GOT AWAY FROM ME... I LOST TRACK OF TIME AND--!
HEY, IT'S ALL RIGHT.
I'M A REPORTER, TOO, REMEMBER? SEEMS TO ME THAT I'VE KEPT YOU WAITING ON MORE THAN ONE OCCASION.
HOWEVER, IF YOU MUST APOLOGIZE, YOU MIGHT AS WELL DO IT ON A FULL STOMACH. I KNOW A LITTLE DOCKSIDE CAFÉ THAT DOES A GREAT BREAKFAST.
CLARK KENT, YOU ARE REALLY SOMETHING ELSE...
...MMM-MWAH!
AND I AM FAMISHED! LET'S GO!
The End

A SPECIAL SUPERMAN EXTRA!

MA KENT'S PHOTO ALBUM

FATHER DELIVERS BABY DURING STORM

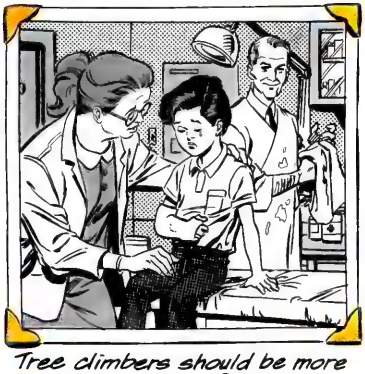
This paper is pleased to report, though a trifle belatedly, the birth of a baby boy to Jonathan and Martha Kent, on or about February 28th. "We're not exactly certain of the date," reports the proud father, "we were without power due to the blizzard. And in all the excitement, I'm afraid I'd let my watch ru[redacted]

THAT HORRIBLE BLIZZARD! STILL, SOME GOOD CAME OUT OF IT... IT PROVIDED US WITH THE OPPORTUNITY TO PASS CLARK OFF AS OUR OWN SON.
I LOOKED SO YOUNG!

Proud parents show off their boy

One year old – and growing like a weed!

Caught in the act!

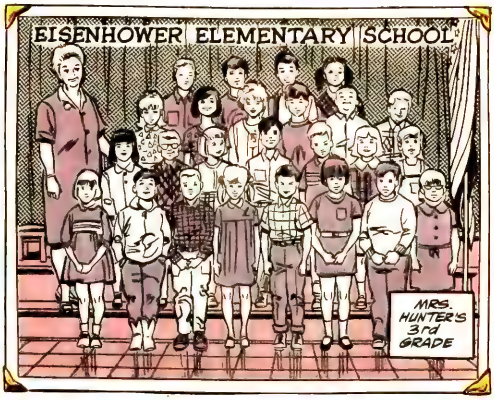


Tree climbers should be more careful!

IF I LIVE TO BE A HUNDRED, I'LL *NEVER* FORGET THAT DAY! WHEN CLARK TUMBLED FROM THAT OLD WALNUT TREE--! LUCKILY, IT WAS ONLY A *SIMPLE FRACTURE*...

...AND IT DID TEACH HIM TO BE MORE CAUTIOUS!

Best of pals!



REPORT CARD

SMALLVILLE CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL SYSTEM
LOWELL COUNTY, KANSAS

STUDENT Clark Kent
GRADE 3rd
SCHOOL Eisenhower Elementary
TEACHER Virginia Hunter

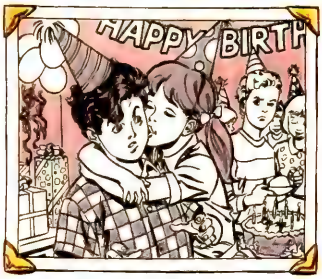
SECOND SEMESTER REPORT

SUBJECT	1st 6 wks.	2nd 6 wks.	3rd 6 wks.	final
READING	A	A	A	A+
WRITING	A	A+	A+	A+
SPELLING	A	A	A	A
ARITHMETIC	A	A	A	A+
SOCIAL STUDIES	A	A	A	A
SCIENCE	A	A	A	A
HEALTH	A	A	A	A

TEACHER'S COMMENTS: Clark is an eager and insightful student. His language skills are especially impressive for one so young. He should be encouraged to develop them further.
V. H.

CLARK WAS ALWAYS A BRIGHT BOY, BUT THIS WAS THE FIRST YEAR THAT HE GOT ALL A'S. AND I STILL SAY THAT VIRGIE HUNTER WAS THE REASON!

SHE GOT ALL THE CHILDREN TO ENJOY LEARNING! WE WERE SO LUCKY TO HAVE TEACHERS LIKE HER IN THIS COUNTY!



Clark at Lana Lang's 8th birthday party

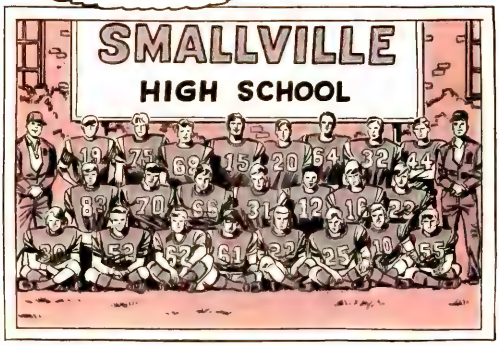
The two scamps... Peter Ross and Clark off for a day of fishing!

KIWANIS PICNIC FUN FOR ALL

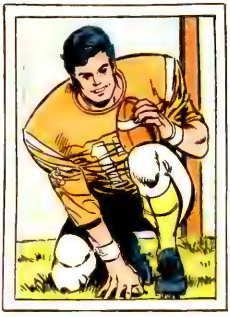
Over a hundred families turned out for the 25th Annual Kiwanis Picnic last Saturday at Fordman Meadows. Hot dogs, potato salad, and lemonade were the main fare of the day, and picnickers were treated to the song stylings of the Smallville Ragtimers with special guest-vocalist Margret-Mae.

CLARK WAS REALLY FEELING HIS OATS THAT DAY! JONATHAN SAID LATER THAT IT WAS JUST ABOUT IMPOSSIBLE TO KEEP UP WITH THE BOY... AND HE WAS ONLY 13. CLARK PRACTICALLY CARRIED HIM THROUGH THAT RACE!
I THINK THEIR RECORD IS STILL UNBEATEN.

Jonathan and Clark Kent were the easy winners in the father-son three-legged race.



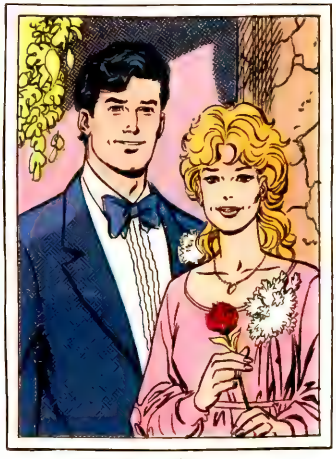
Another championship team!



Football hero!

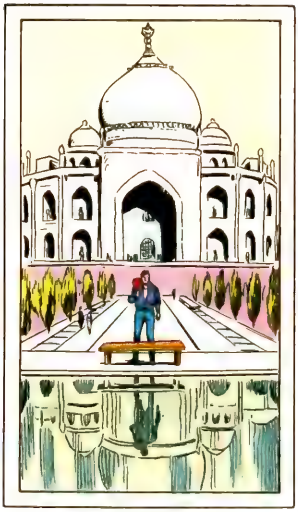
Clark and Peter - clowning around again!

CLARK MUST HAVE BEEN ABOUT 17 WHEN THIS PICTURE WAS TAKEN -- AND AT CLOSE TO HIS FULL STRENGTH. POOR PETER... HE NEVER HAD A CHANCE!

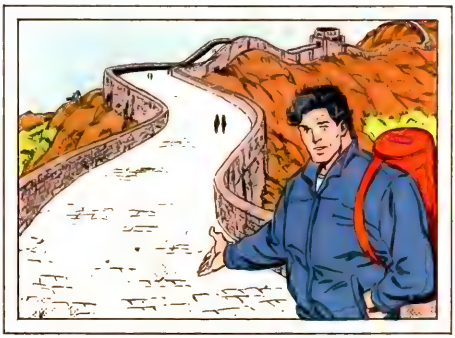


King and Queen of the prom

Our world traveler...

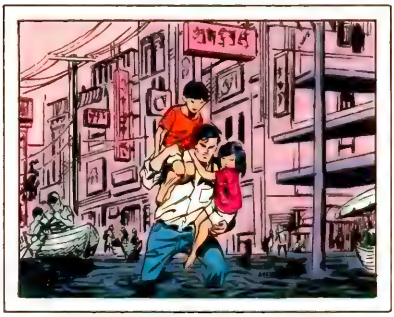


...in India



...on the Great Wall of China

...on the High Sierras



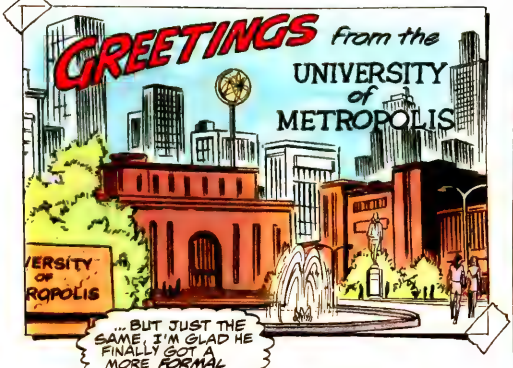
...lending a helping hand in Bangkok, during monsoon season

...among the pyramids of Sudan

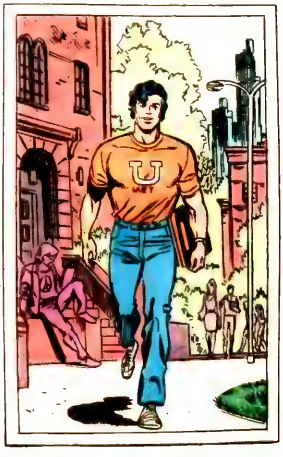
THESE ARE THE ONLY PICTURES I HAVE OF CLARK FROM THE YEARS JUST AFTER HE LEFT HOME. I WISH I HAD MORE--

--BUT IF IT WEREN'T FOR A HANDFUL OF ACCOMMODATING PEOPLE WITH CAMERAS, I WOULDN'T EVEN HAVE THESE!

CLARK SAID HE LEARNED A LOT ABOUT THE WORLD DURING THIS PERIOD, AND I KNOW THAT'S TRUE...



Here comes Joe College!



Smallville's addition to the world's great chefs! Clark with Mr. Balducci and Ruby Carson

Clark and his friend Lori

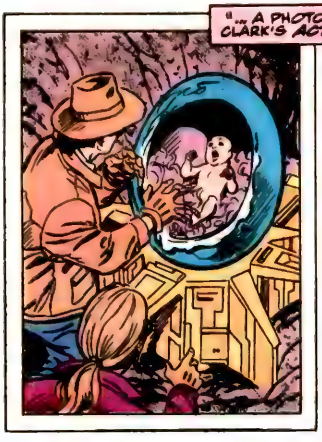
SUCH A PRETTY GIRL. I WONDER WHATEVER BECAME OF HER? CLARK NEVER MENTIONS HER...

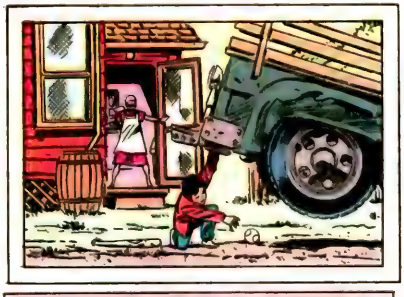
Graduation Day!

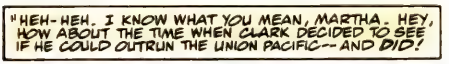
MARTHA--?

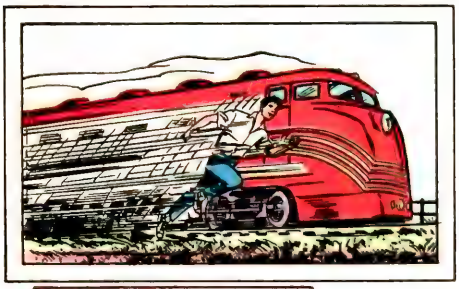
MIND IF I JOIN YOU OUT HERE, HON?
NOT AT ALL, JON. I WAS JUST LOOKING OVER THE FAMILY ALBUM.

SO MANY BEAUTIFUL MEMORIES. EVEN SO, NONE OF THEM ARE QUITE AS VIVID AS THE ONES WE DON'T HAVE PICTURES OF! CAN YOU IMAGINE...

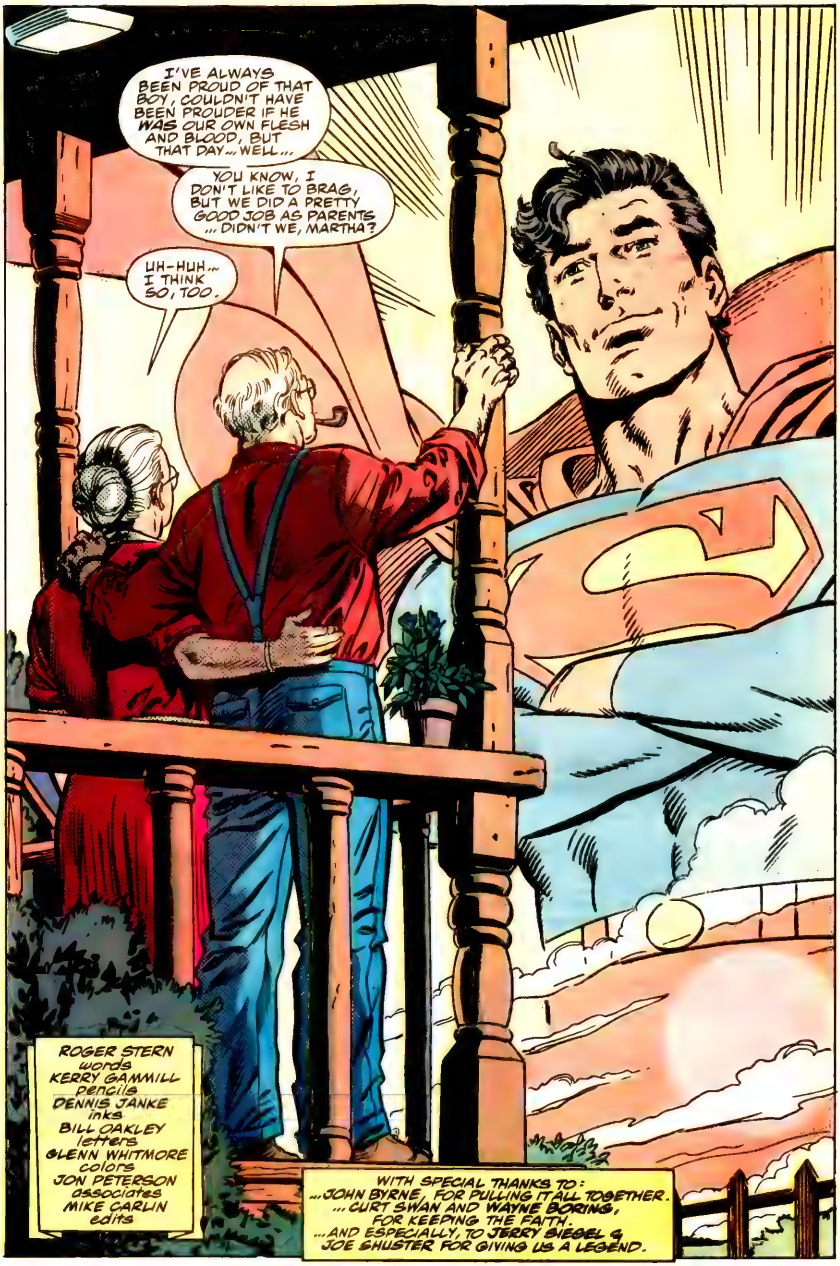

"...A PHOTO OF US AT CLARK'S ACTUAL BIRTH?

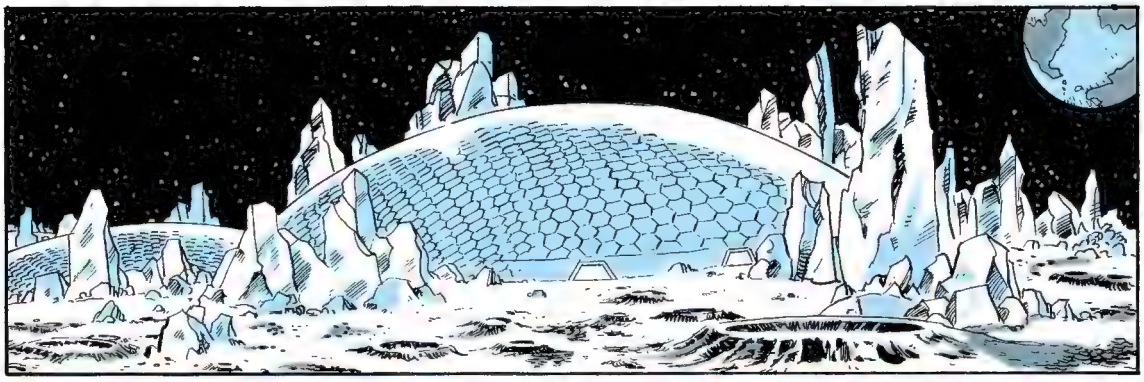

"OR THAT TIME CLARK WENT TO RETRIEVE HIS BALL FROM UNDER THE OLD TRUCK?"


"HEH-HEH. I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, MARTHA. HEY, HOW ABOUT THE TIME WHEN CLARK DECIDED TO SEE IF HE COULD OUTRUN THE UNION PACIFIC--AND DID!


"HE WAS JUST LUCKY THAT NO ONE GOT A GOOD LOOK AT HIM!

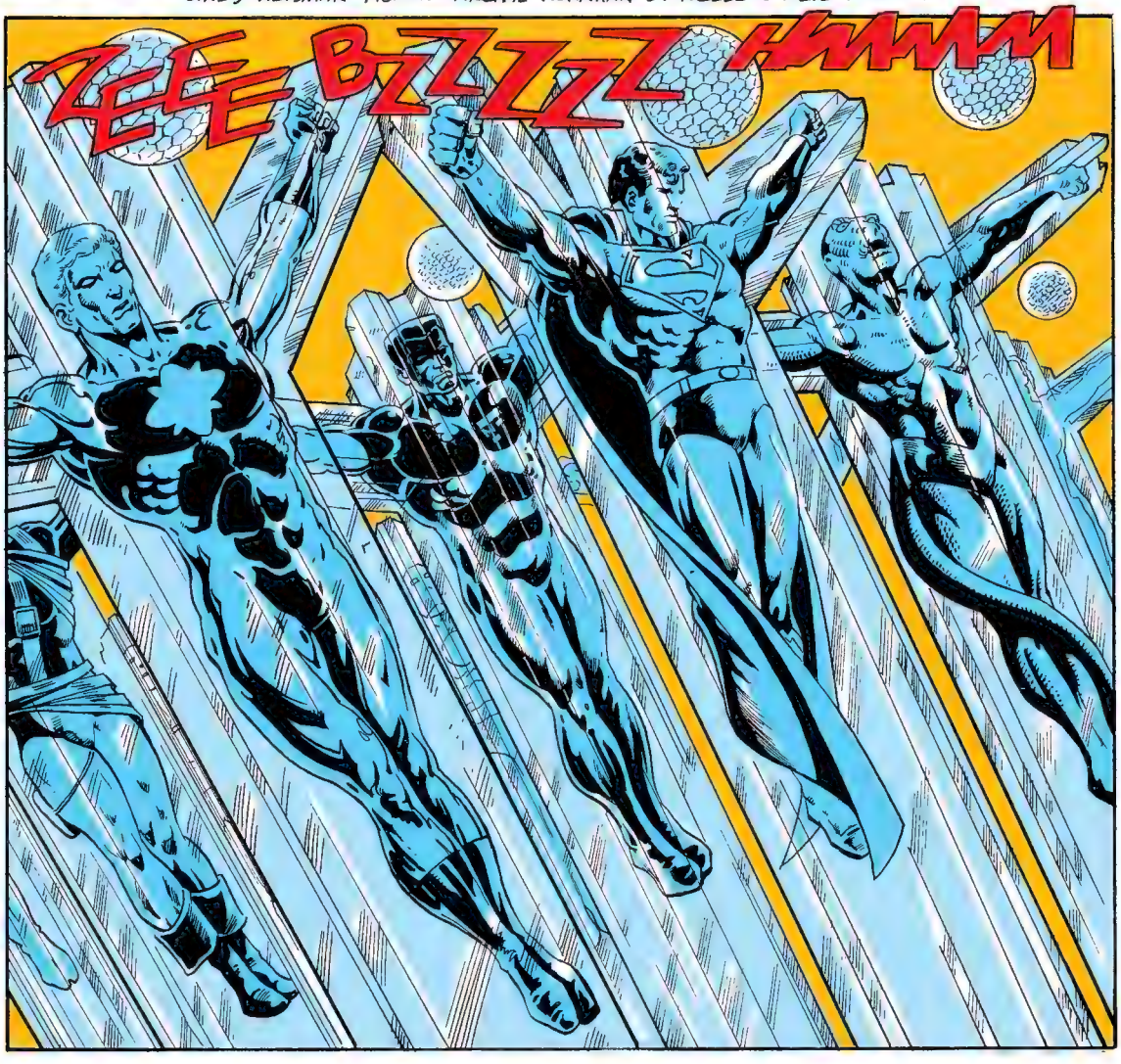
"BUT THERE IS ONE PICTURE I WISH WE DID HAVE, HON... FROM THE DAY WHEN HE FIRST PUT ON THE COSTUME YOU MADE HIM..."


I'VE ALWAYS BEEN PROUD OF THAT BOY. COULDN'T HAVE BEEN PROUDER IF HE WAS OUR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD, BUT THAT DAY... WELL...
YOU KNOW, I DON'T LIKE TO BRAG, BUT WE DID A PRETTY GOOD JOB AS PARENTS ... DIDN'T WE, MARTHA?
UH-HUH... I THINK SO, TOO.
ROGER STERN words
KERRY GAMMILL pencils
DENNIS JANKE inks
BILL OAKLEY letters
GLENN WHITMORE colors
JON PETERSON associates
MIKE CARLIN edits
WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:
...JOHN BYRNE, FOR PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER.
... CURT SWAN AND WAYNE BORING, FOR KEEPING THE FAITH.
...AND ESPECIALLY, TO JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER FOR GIVING US A LEGEND.

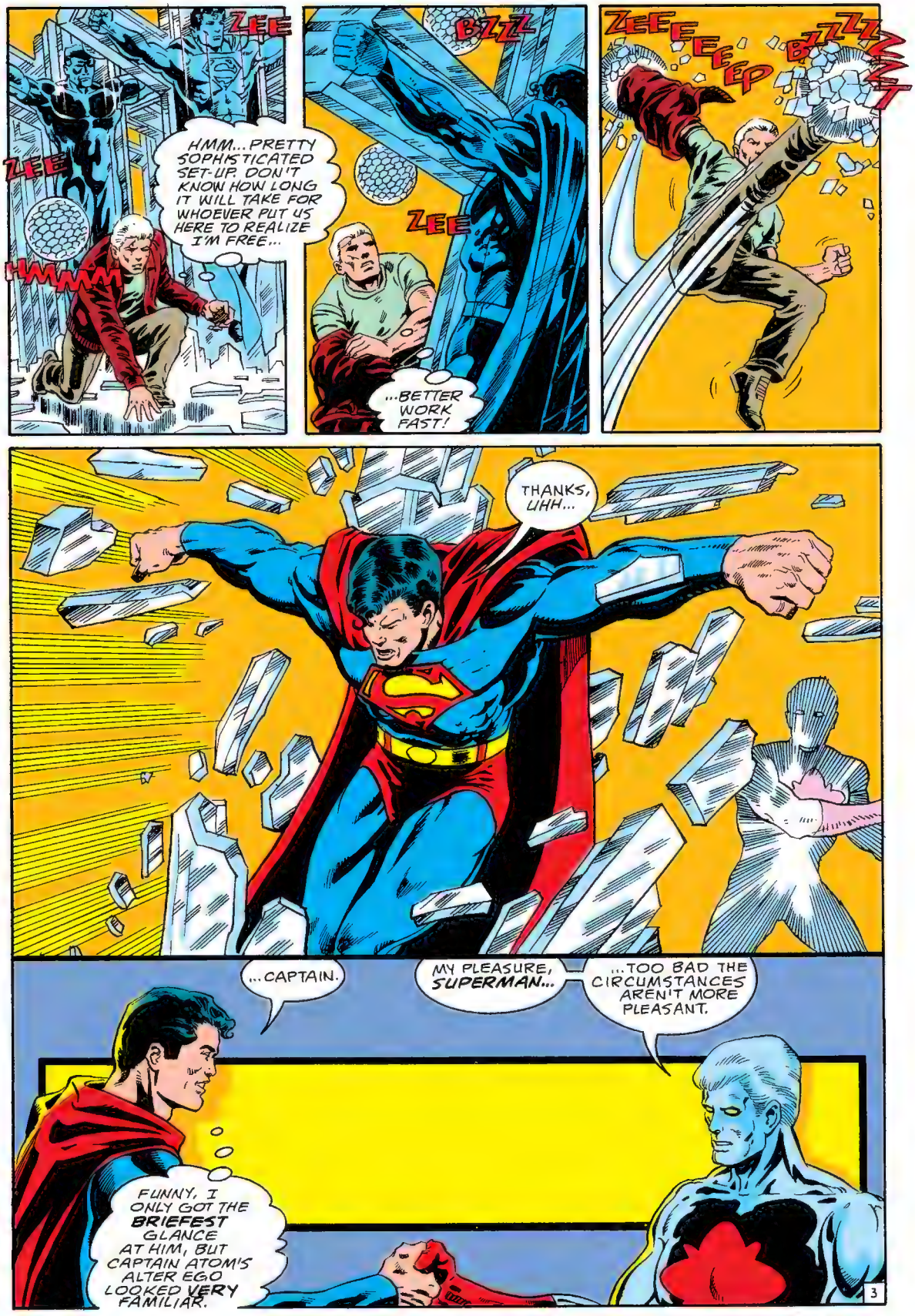


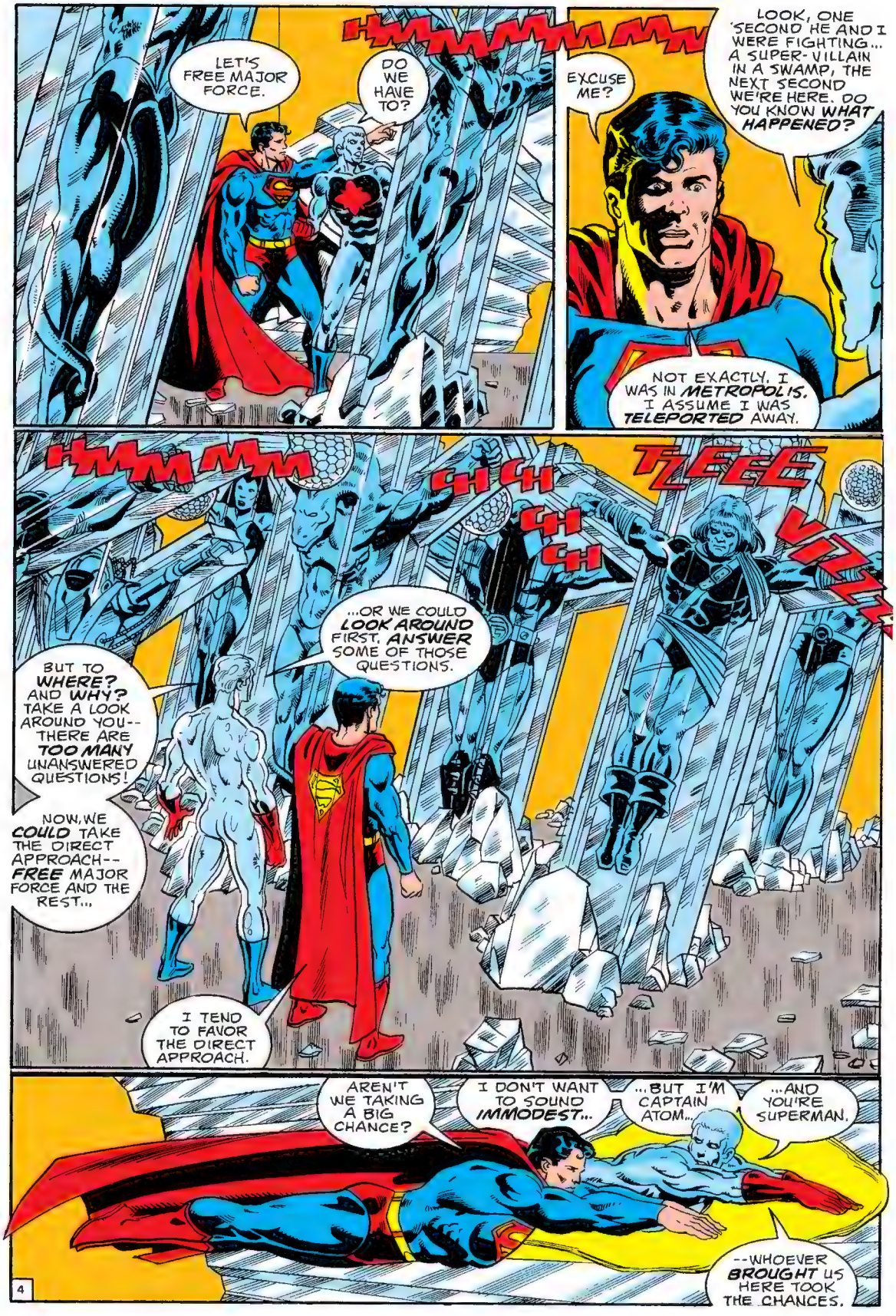
MEN of STEEL

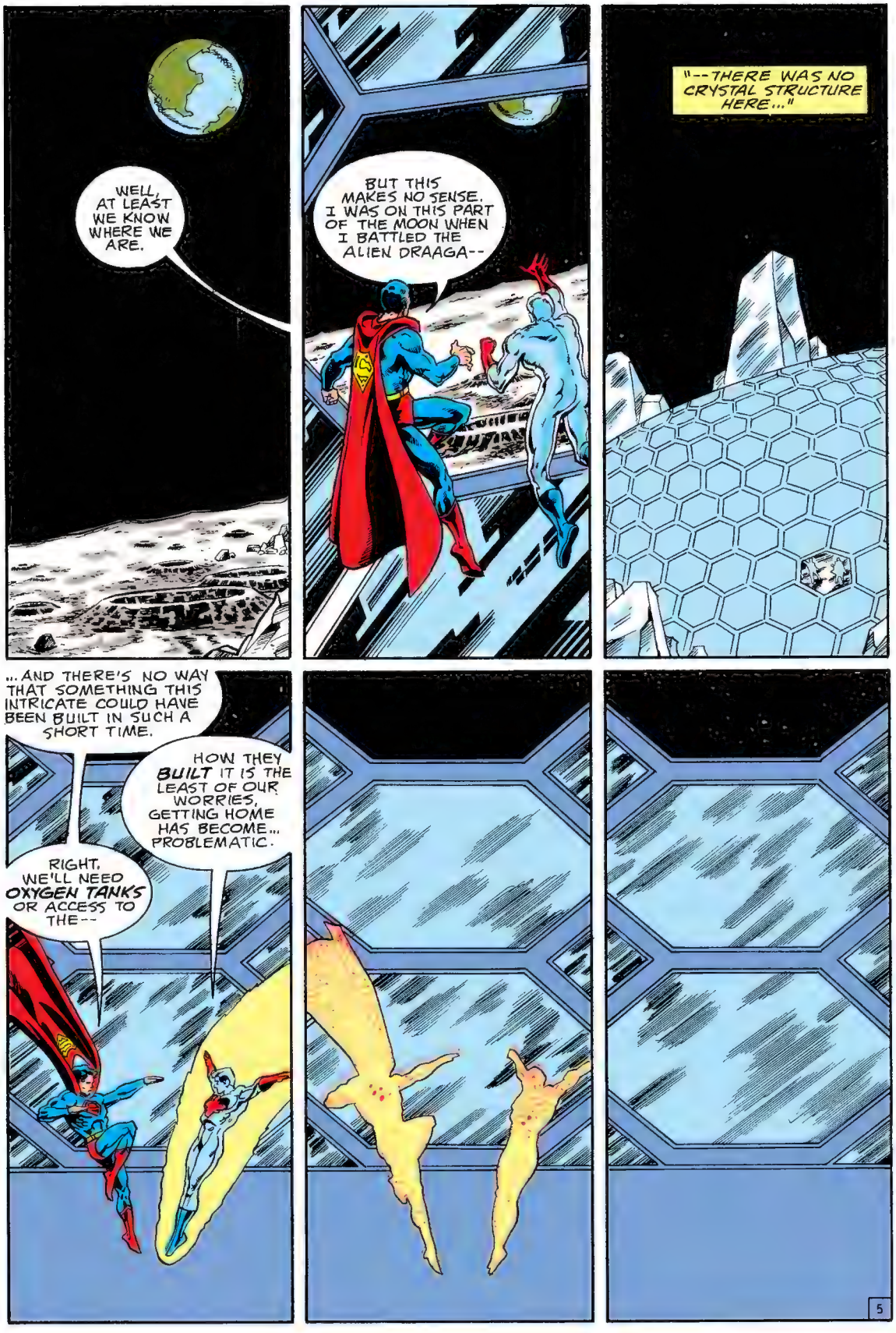
BATES · WEISMAN · ADAMS · TANGHAL · WORKMAN · D'ANGELO · O'NEIL · PUCKETT



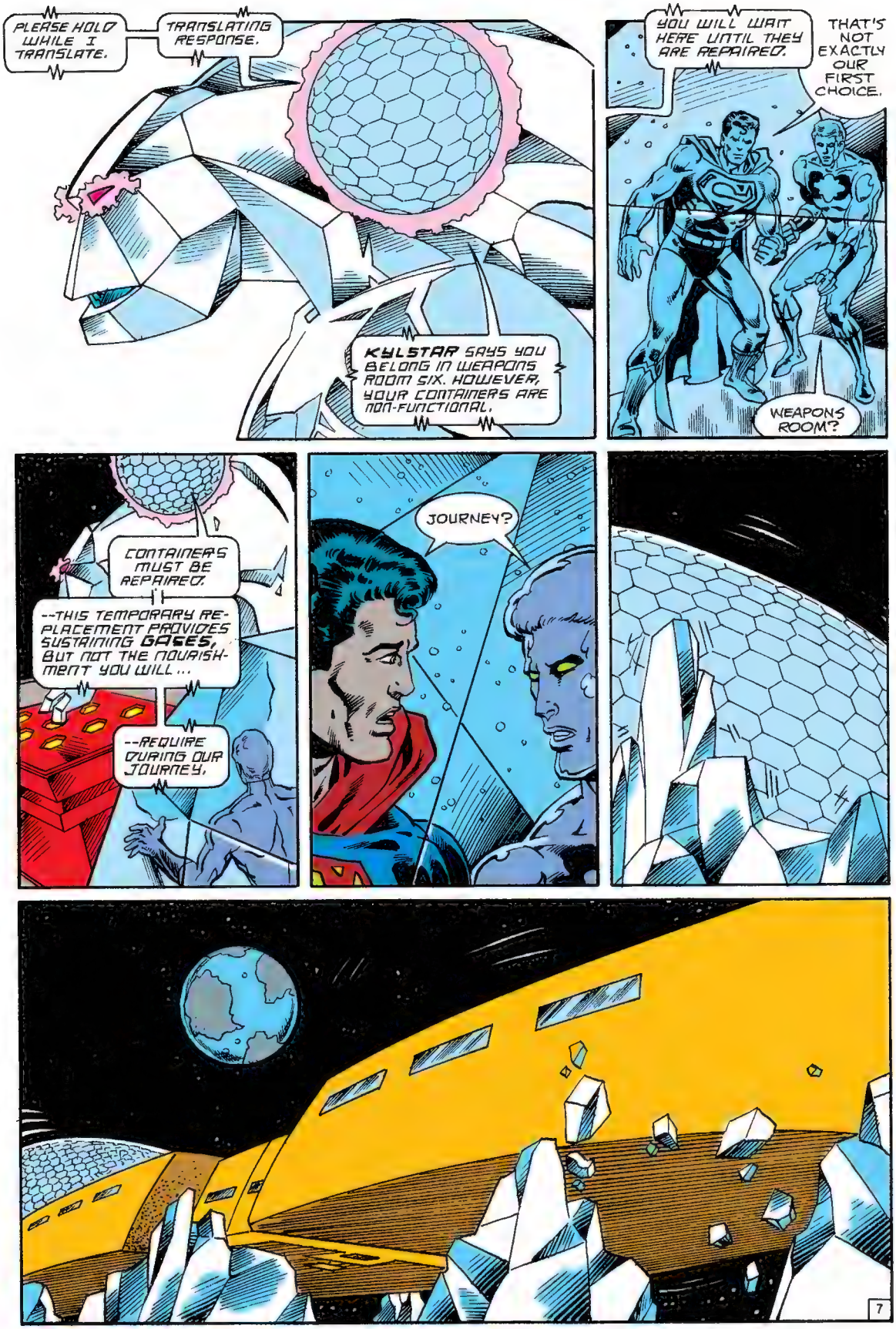
ZEEEE
THAT NOISE... CAN'T ...FOCUS...CAN'T ...MOVE... JAMMING... MY... BRAIN...
ZEEEEEEEE
...NO STRENGTH ...CAN'T CONNECT WITH QUANTUM FIELD... CUT OFF...
... CAPTAIN ATOM ... PARALYZED... ONE CHANCE...
ZEEEEEE
ZEEEEEEEEEEE
...I CAN ESCAPE!
IT WORKED. FIGURED IF I LET GO OF CAP ENTIRELY, THE NOISE WOULDN'T AFFECT ME AS CAMERON SCOTT--
--I WAS RIGHT. I CAN THINK AGAIN, MOVE AGAIN, AND I HOPE...
SHATTER
2

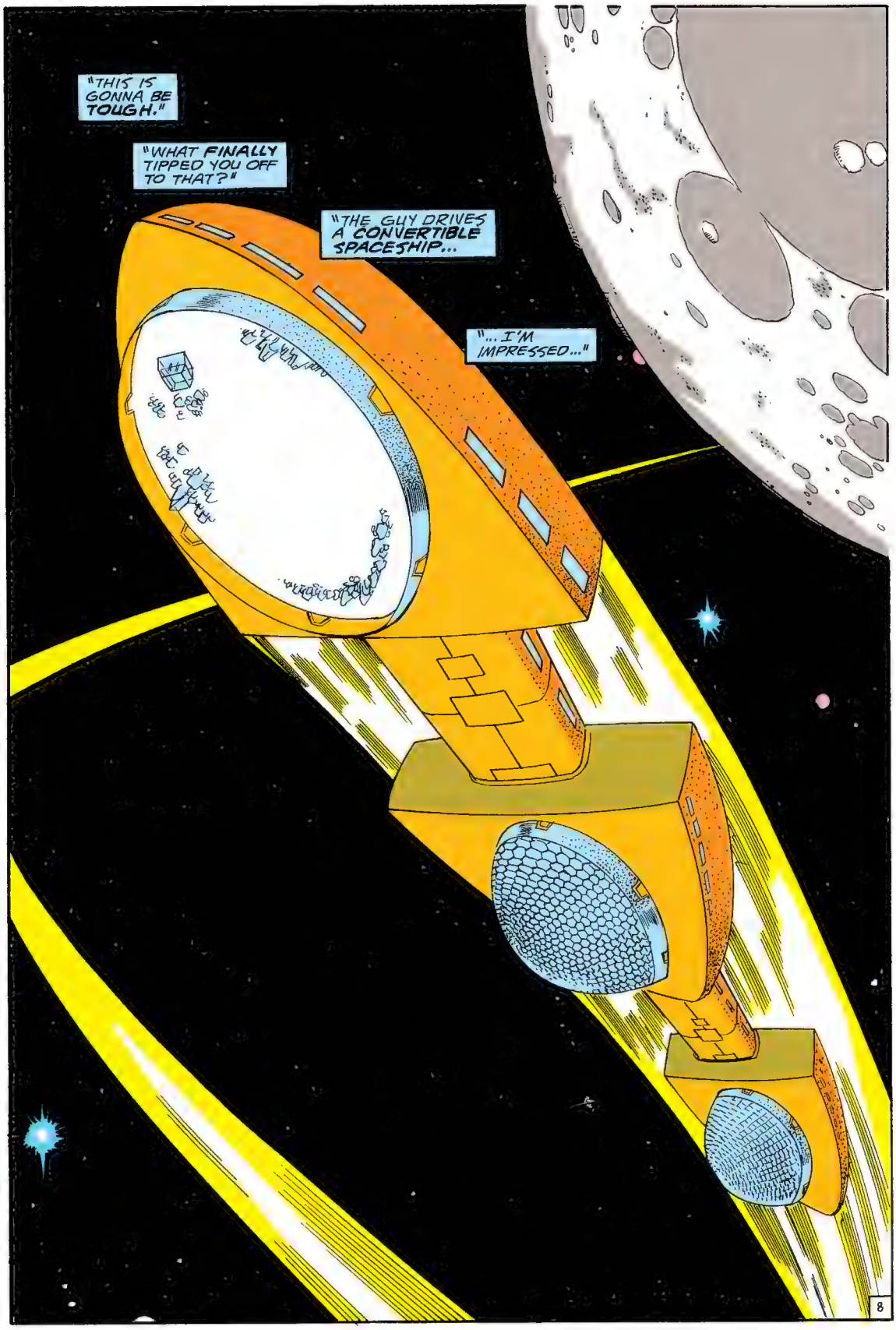

ZEE
ZEE
HMMM...
HMM... PRETTY SOPHISTICATED SET-UP. DON'T KNOW HOW LONG IT WILL TAKE FOR WHOEVER PUT US HERE TO REALIZE I'M FREE...
BZZZ
ZEE
...BETTER WORK FAST!
ZEEEEEEEP
BZZZZZZZT
THANKS, UHH...
...CAPTAIN.
MY PLEASURE, SUPERMAN...
...TOO BAD THE CIRCUMSTANCES AREN'T MORE PLEASANT.
FUNNY, I ONLY GOT THE BRIEFEST GLANCE AT HIM, BUT CAPTAIN ATOM'S ALTER EGO LOOKED VERY FAMILIAR.
3


LET'S FREE MAJOR FORCE.
DO WE HAVE TO?
HMMMMMMMM
EXCUSE ME?
LOOK, ONE SECOND HE AND I WERE FIGHTING... A SUPER-VILLAIN IN A SWAMP, THE NEXT SECOND WE'RE HERE. DO YOU KNOW WHAT HAPPENED?
NOT EXACTLY. I WAS IN METROPOLIS. I ASSUME I WAS TELEPORTED AWAY.
HMMMMM
CH CH CH CH
TEEE VIZZZ
...OR WE COULD LOOK AROUND FIRST. ANSWER SOME OF THOSE QUESTIONS.
BUT TO WHERE? AND WHY? TAKE A LOOK AROUND YOU-- THERE ARE TOO MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS!
NOW, WE COULD TAKE THE DIRECT APPROACH-- FREE MAJOR FORCE AND THE REST...
I TEND TO FAVOR THE DIRECT APPROACH.
AREN'T WE TAKING A BIG CHANCE?
I DON'T WANT TO SOUND IMMODEST...
...BUT I'M CAPTAIN ATOM...
...AND YOU'RE SUPERMAN.
--WHOEVER BROUGHT US HERE TOOK THE CHANCES.

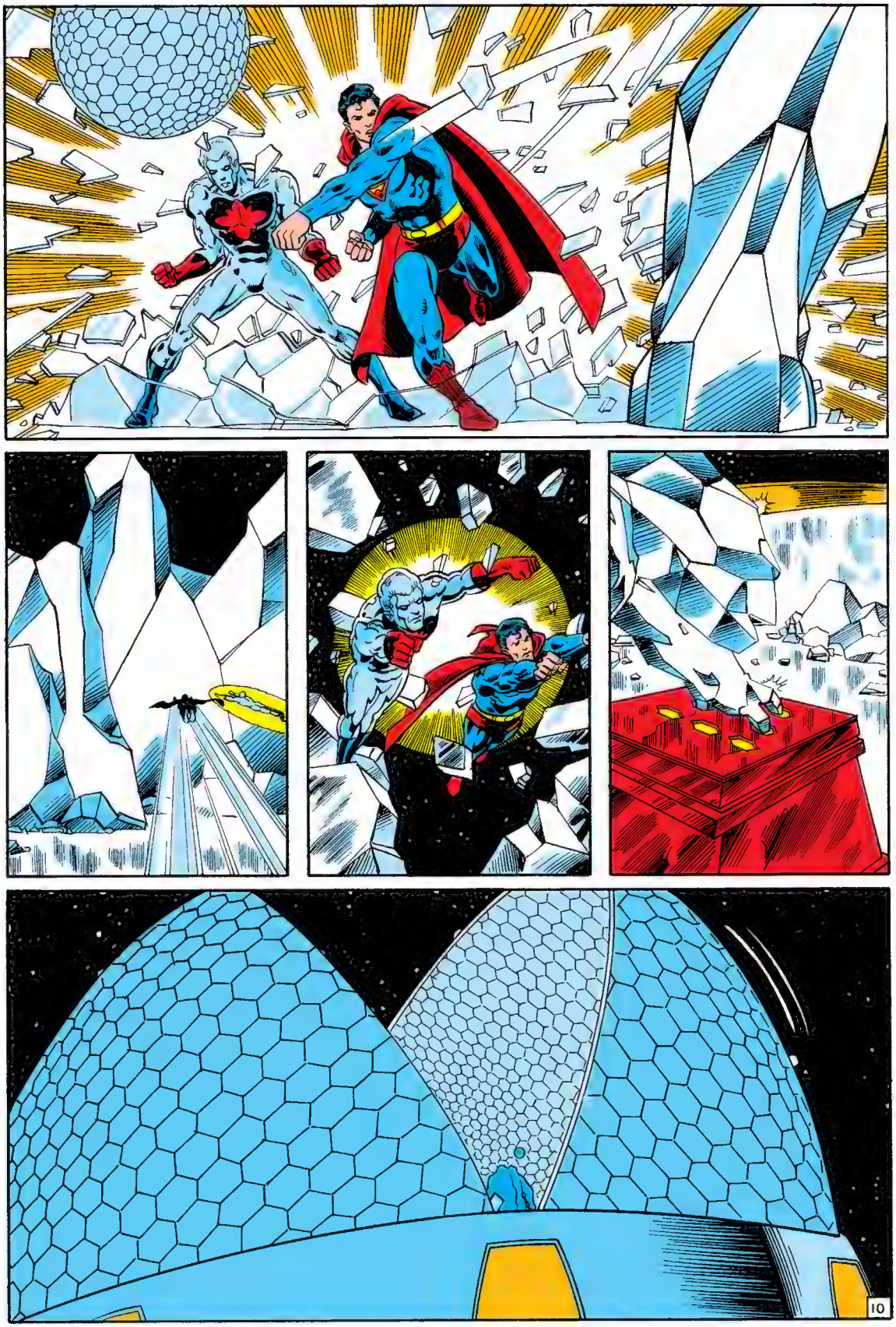

WELL, AT LEAST WE KNOW WHERE WE ARE.
BUT THIS MAKES NO SENSE. I WAS ON THIS PART OF THE MOON WHEN I BATTLED THE ALIEN DRAAGA--
"--THERE WAS NO CRYSTAL STRUCTURE HERE..."
...AND THERE'S NO WAY THAT SOMETHING THIS INTRICATE COULD HAVE BEEN BUILT IN SUCH A SHORT TIME.
HOW THEY *BUILT* IT IS THE LEAST OF OUR WORRIES, GETTING HOME HAS BECOME... PROBLEMATIC.
RIGHT. WE'LL NEED *OXYGEN TANKS* OR ACCESS TO THE--

--TELEPORTER!
BOY, I HATE IT WHEN THIS HAPPENS.

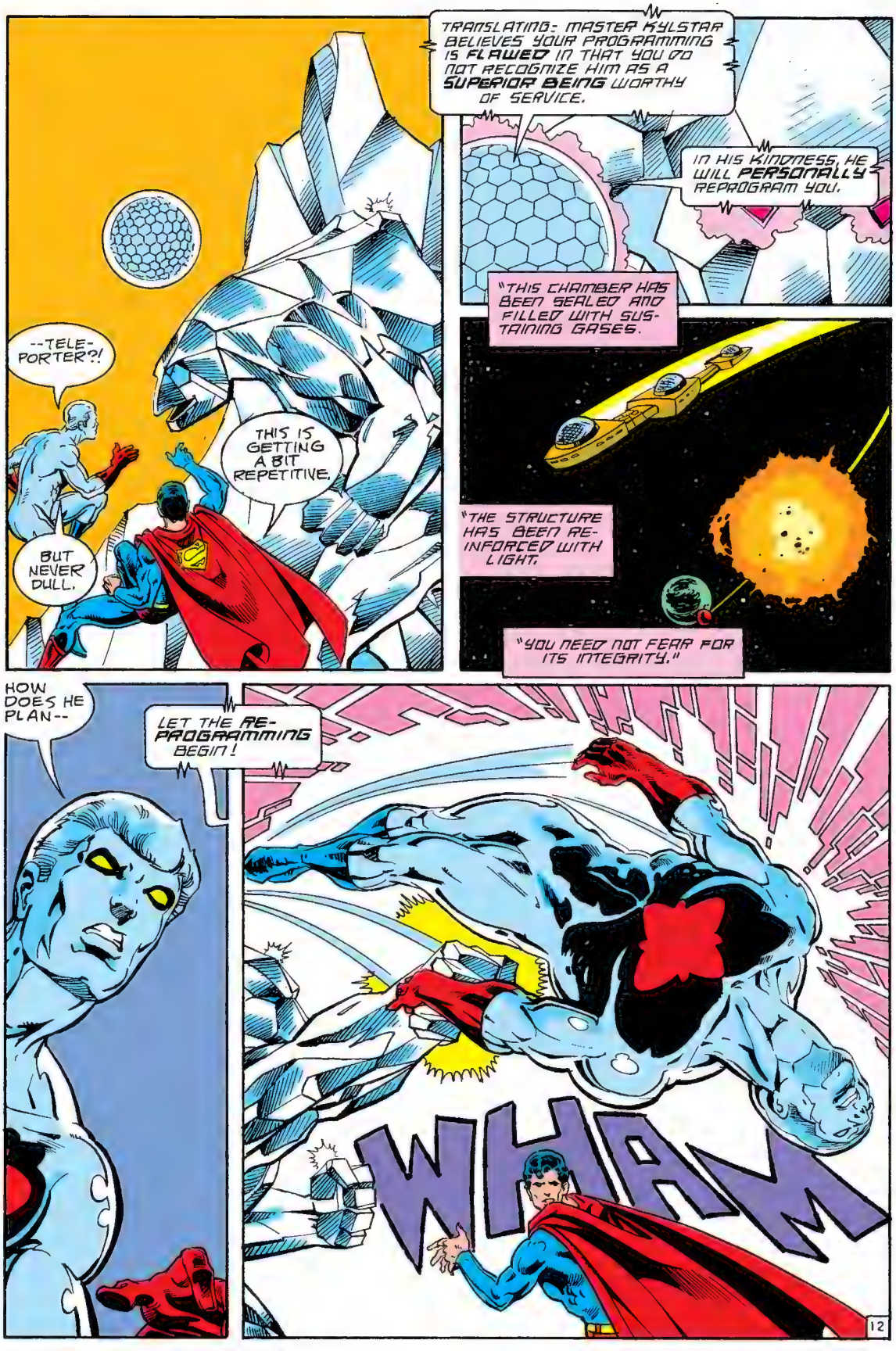

PLEASE HOLD WHILE I TRANSLATE.
TRANSLATING RESPONSE.
KYLSTAR SAYS YOU BELONG IN WEAPONS ROOM SIX. HOWEVER, YOUR CONTAINERS ARE NON-FUNCTIONAL.
YOU WILL WAIT HERE UNTIL THEY ARE REPAIRED.
THAT'S NOT EXACTLY OUR FIRST CHOICE.
WEAPONS ROOM?
CONTAINERS MUST BE REPAIRED.
--THIS TEMPORARY REPLACEMENT PROVIDES SUSTAINING GASES, BUT NOT THE NOURISHMENT YOU WILL...
--REQUIRE DURING OUR JOURNEY.
JOURNEY?

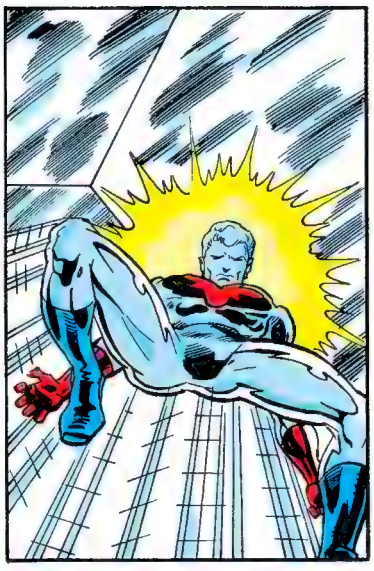

"THIS IS GONNA BE TOUGH."
"WHAT FINALLY TIPPED YOU OFF TO THAT?"
"THE GUY DRIVES A CONVERTIBLE SPACESHIP...
"... I'M IMPRESSED..."

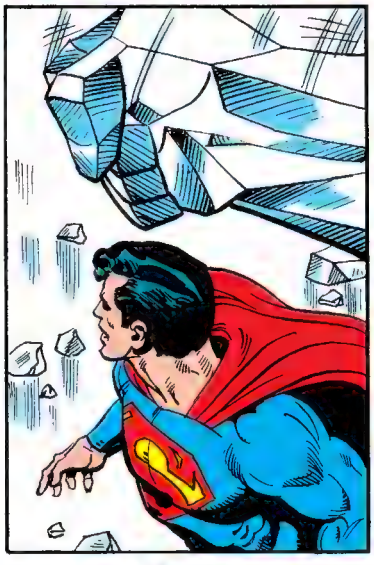
LISTEN, UH... SPHERE... I'D SAY WE'VE BEEN VERY PATIENT SO FAR--
--BUT WE'RE NOT INTERESTED IN ACCOMPANYING YOUR MASTER ON HIS "JOURNEY."
PLEASE ASK HIM TO RETURN US TO THE EARTH.
PLEASE HOLD. TRANSLATING RESPONSE.
TRANSLATION: WEAPONS BELONG IN THE WEAPONS ROOM.
THAT DOES IT. YOU WERE RIGHT--
--WE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN THE DIRECT APPROACH!
JUST HOLD ON A MINUTE. LET ME GIVE THIS A SHOT!
TELL KYLSTAR WE ARE NOT WEAPONS. WE ARE SENTIENT BEINGS.
TRANGLATING RESPONSE.
TRANSLATION: MANY GALACTIC WEAPONS ARE PROGRAMMED FOR INTELLIGENT AND INDEPENDENT THOUGHT.
YOU WERE THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPONS YOUR PITIFUL PLANET HAD TO OFFER.
YOUR LEVEL OF INTELLIGENCE WILL NOT BE HELD AGAINST YOU.
DO WE HAVE TO TAKE THIS?
NOPE.



DO YOU THINK YOU CAN FIND WEAPONS ROOM SIX?
I'M TRYING...
...BUT THERE'S A FORCE FIELD AROUND THE CRYSTAL WALLS THAT'S DISTORTING MY X-RAY VI--
--WAIT! I'VE FOUND IT!
IF WE'RE LUCKY, ONE OF THE OTHER "WEAPONS" WILL KNOW HOW TO USE THE--

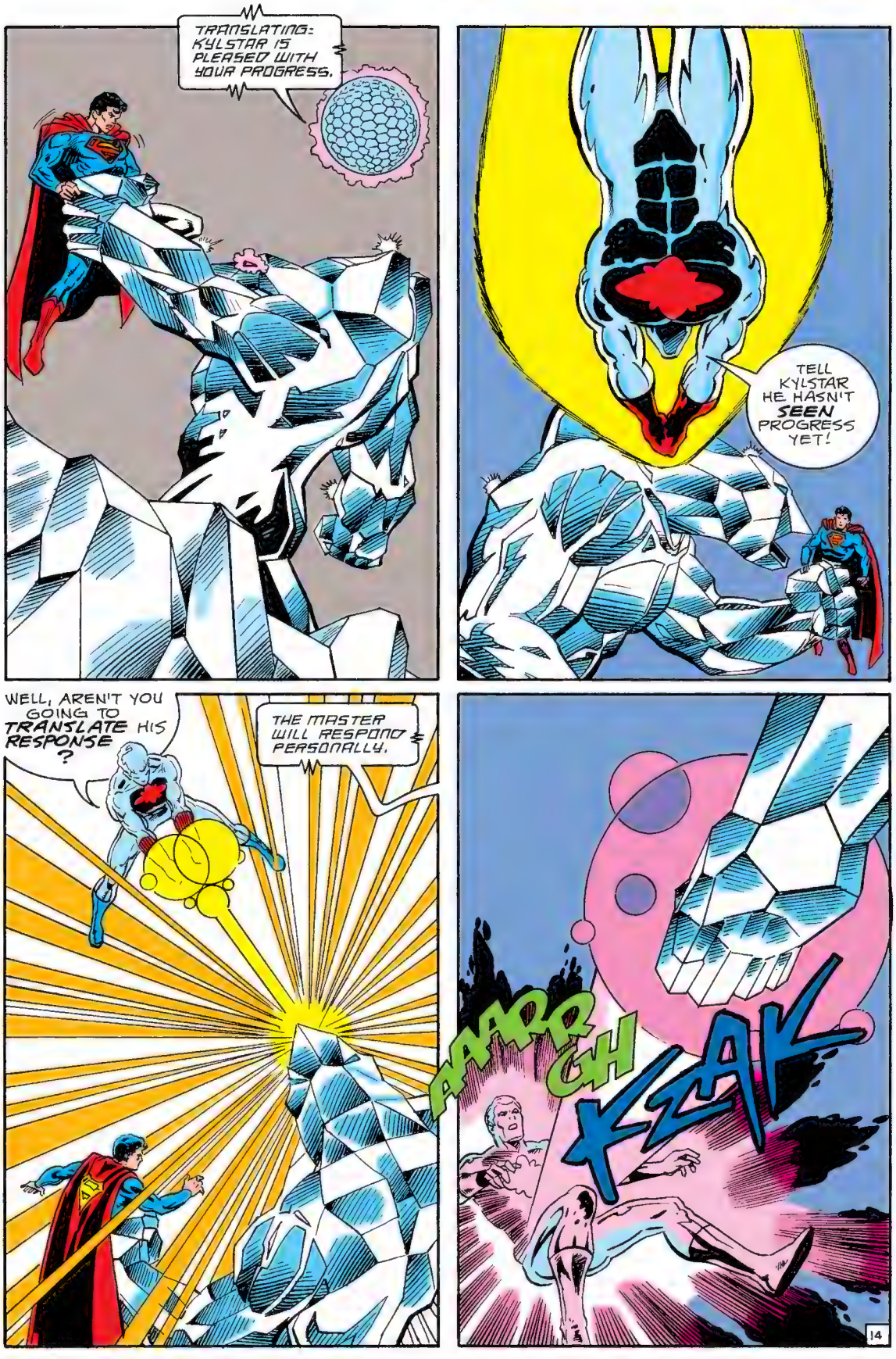

--TELE-PORTER?!
THIS IS GETTING A BIT REPETITIVE.
BUT NEVER DULL.
TRANSLATING: MASTER KYLSTAR BELIEVES YOUR PROGRAMMING IS FLAWED IN THAT YOU DO NOT RECOGNIZE HIM AS A SUPERIOR BEING WORTHY OF SERVICE.
IN HIS KINDNESS, HE WILL PERSONALLY REPROGRAM YOU.
"THIS CHAMBER HAS BEEN SEALED AND FILLED WITH SUSTAINING GASES.
"THE STRUCTURE HAS BEEN REINFORCED WITH LIGHT.
"YOU NEED NOT FEAR FOR ITS INTEGRITY."
HOW DOES HE PLAN--
LET THE REPROGRAMMING BEGIN!
WHAM
12

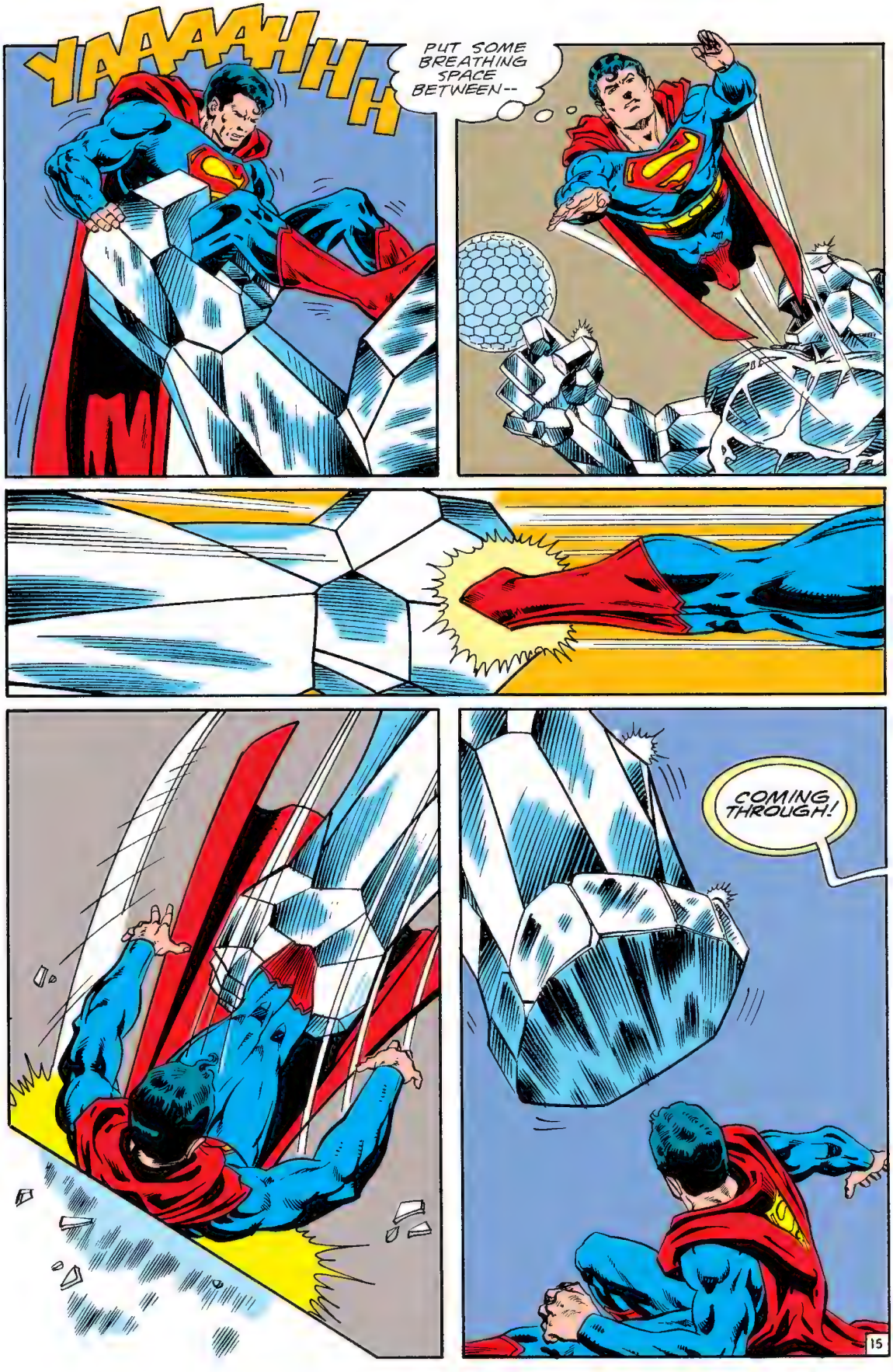


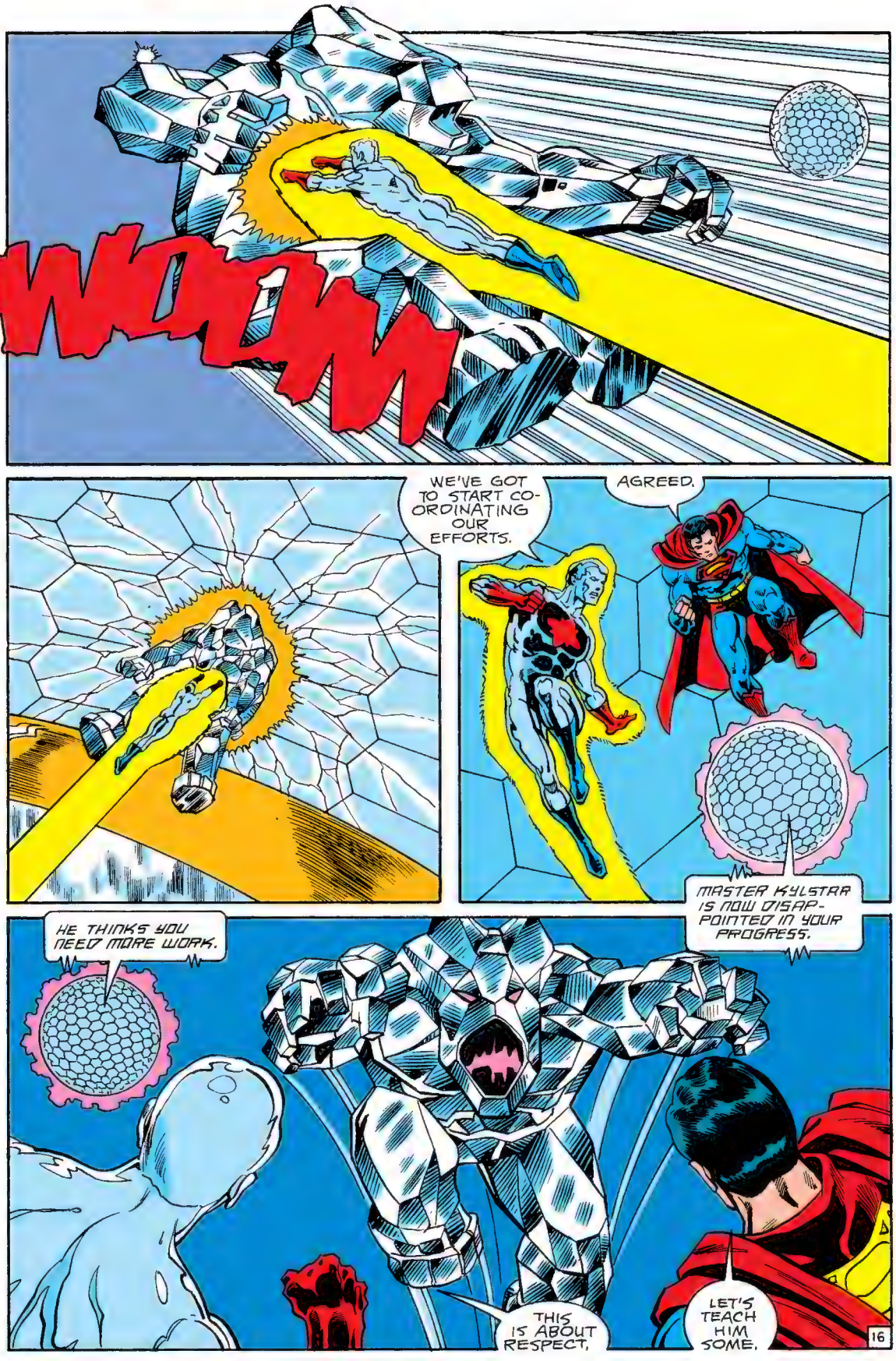


UH OH.

WOOMPH!

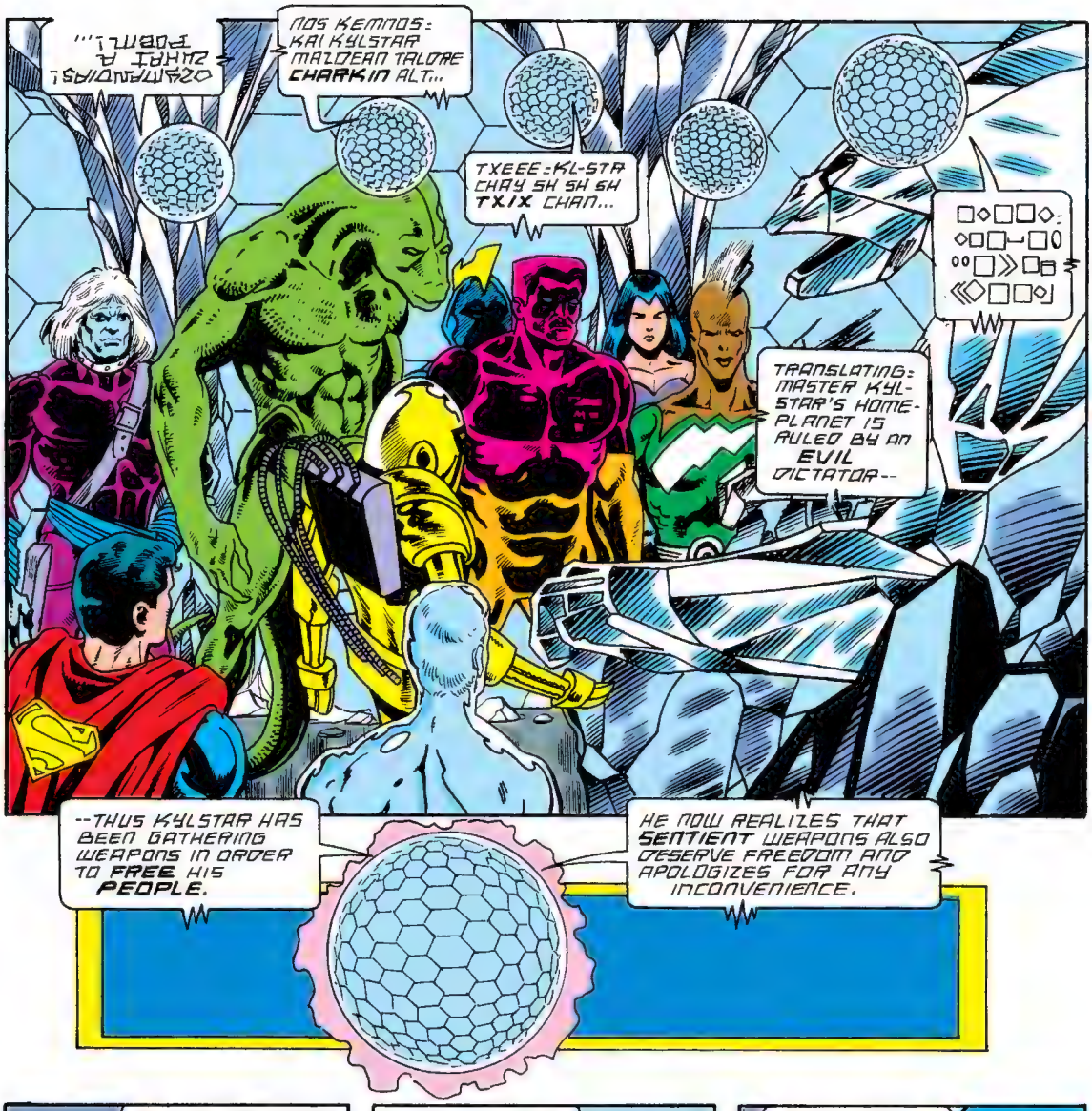

TRANSLATING: KYLSTAR IS PLEASED WITH YOUR PROGRESS.
TELL KYLSTAR HE HASN'T SEEN PROGRESS YET!
WELL, AREN'T YOU GOING TO TRANSLATE HIS RESPONSE?
THE MASTER WILL RESPOND PERSONALLY.
AAARR GH
KZAK
14


YAAAAAHHHH
PUT SOME BREATHING SPACE BETWEEN--
COMING THROUGH!


WOOMM
WE'VE GOT TO START CO-ORDINATING OUR EFFORTS.
AGREED.
MASTER KYLSTRA IS NOW DISAP-POINTED IN YOUR PROGRESS.
HE THINKS YOU NEED MORE WORK.
THIS IS ABOUT RESPECT.
LET'S TEACH HIM SOME.

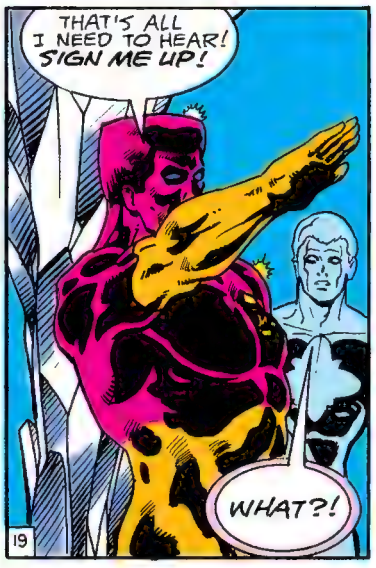
KRAK

KRASH
KOOM
NOW, THAT'S RESPECT.
MAYBE I SPOKE PREMATURELY.
TRANSLATING RESPONSE.
TRANSLATION: MASTER KYLSTAR IS IMPRESSED.
WELL, WOULDN'T YOU KNOW? HE HAD A GLASS JAW.

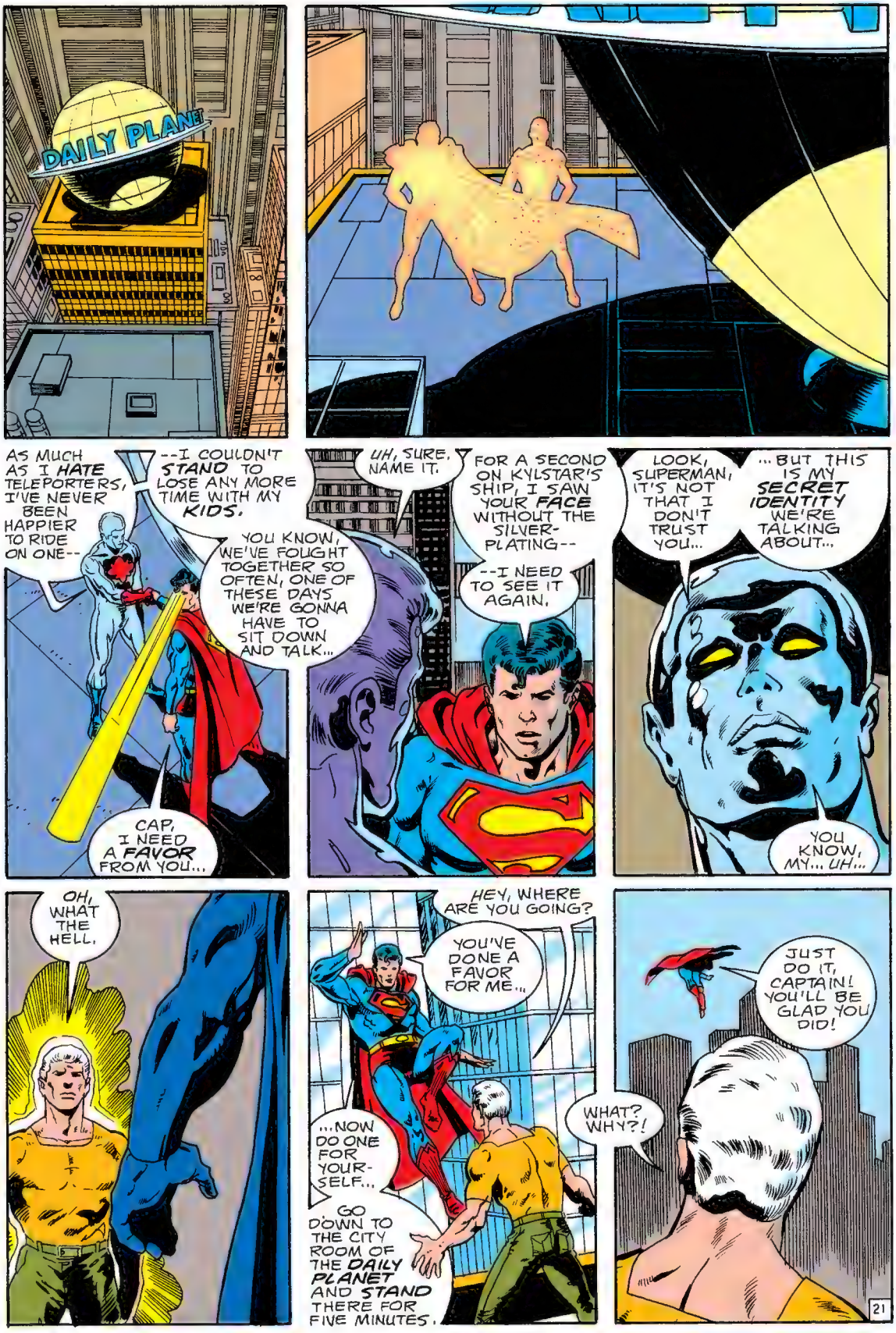

NOS KEMNOS: KAI KYLSTAR MALDEAN TALORE CHARKIN ALT...
TXEEE:KL-STR CHAY SH SH SH TXIX CHAN...
TRANSLATING: MASTER KYL-STAR'S HOME-PLANET IS RULED BY AN EVIL DICTATOR--
--THUS KYLSTAR HAS BEEN GATHERING WEAPONS IN ORDER TO FREE HIS PEOPLE.
HE NOW REALIZES THAT SENTIENT WEAPONS ALSO DESERVE FREEDOM AND APOLOGIZES FOR ANY INCONVENIENCE.

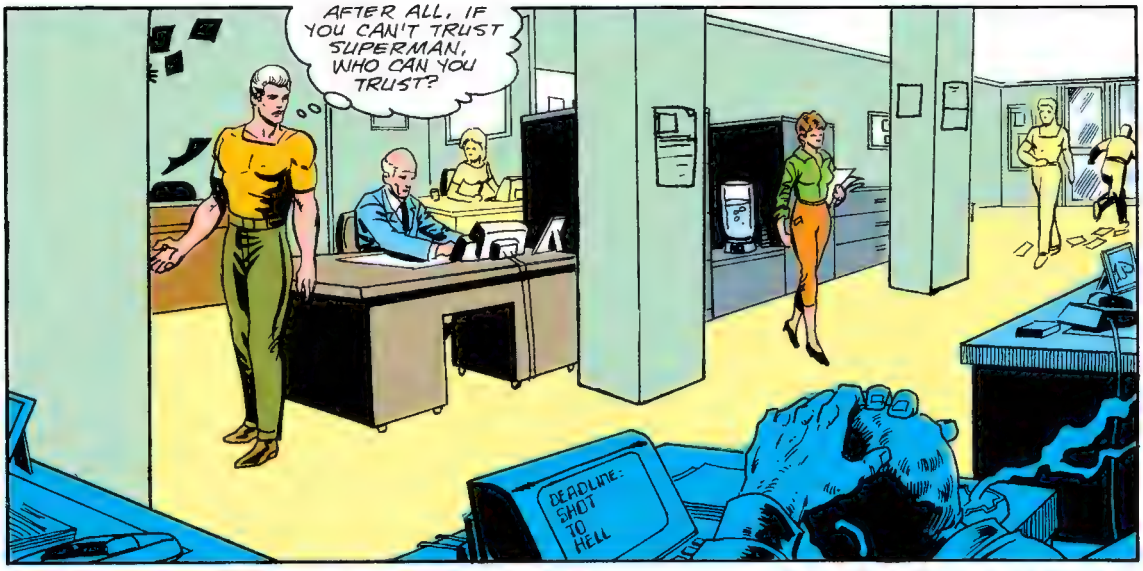
CAN WE BELIEVE ANY OF THIS?
YES. THE RULER OF KYLSTAR'S HOME-WORLD IS WELL KNOWN FOR HIS CRUELTY...
...IN MY CORNER OF THE GALAXY.

IF YOU DESIRE, KYLSTAR WILL RETURN YOU ALL TO YOUR HOME PLANETS.
BUT IF YOU CHOOSE TO REMAIN, THE MASTER PROMISES YOU GOOD TREAT-MENT AND A GLORIOUS BATTLE.


THAT'S ALL I NEED TO HEAR! SIGN ME UP!
WHAT?!

HEY, I'LL TAKE THIS GUY OVER EILING ANY DAY!
AT LEAST KYL-JOY HERE CAN'T PRESS A BUTTON AND BLOW MY HEAD OFF!
THE CHOICE HAS BEEN MADE!
TELL KYLJOY HE SHOWED GOOD TASTE GETTIN' RID OF CHROME-DOME--
--AND ASK HIM HOW LONG BEFORE I CAN GET A PIECE OF THAT DICTATOR-CREEP!
TRANSLATING RESPONSE,
TRANSLATION: DICTATOR IS TOO POWERFUL TO TAKE ON WITH LIMITED WEAPONRY--
--TO FREE HIS PEOPLE, MASTER KYLSTAR WILL REQUIRE MORE PREPARATION...
--HE WILL BEGIN BY CONQUER-ING THE GALAXY!
MISTER, I LIKE THE WAY YOU THINK.


DAILY PLANET
AS MUCH AS I HATE TELEPORTERS, I'VE NEVER BEEN HAPPIER TO RIDE ON ONE--
--I COULDN'T STAND TO LOSE ANY MORE TIME WITH MY KIDS.
YOU KNOW, WE'VE FOUGHT TOGETHER SO OFTEN, ONE OF THESE DAYS WE'RE GONNA HAVE TO SIT DOWN AND TALK...
CAP, I NEED A FAVOR FROM YOU...
UH, SURE. NAME IT.
FOR A SECOND ON KYLSTAR'S SHIP, I SAW YOUR FACE WITHOUT THE SILVER-PLATING--
--I NEED TO SEE IT AGAIN.
LOOK, SUPERMAN, IT'S NOT THAT I DON'T TRUST YOU...
...BUT THIS IS MY SECRET IDENTITY WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...
YOU KNOW, MY... UH...
OH, WHAT THE HELL.
HEY, WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
YOU'VE DONE A FAVOR FOR ME...
...NOW DO ONE FOR YOURSELF...
GO DOWN TO THE CITY ROOM OF THE DAILY PLANET AND STAND THERE FOR FIVE MINUTES.
WHAT? WHY?!
JUST DO IT, CAPTAIN! YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!
21


AFTER ALL, IF YOU CAN'T TRUST SUPERMAN, WHO CAN YOU TRUST?
DEADLINE: SHOT TO HELL

OH, MY GOD!...

...PEGGY!
DAD?

THANK GOD I FOUND YOU.
I'VE MISSED YOU, DAD. I REALLY HAVE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW...

"THIS IS OUR FUTURE, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

"GLOBAL WARMING--DEPLETION OF THE OZONE LAYER--OUR ECOSYSTEM DESTROYED BY POLLUTANTS...

Value Pharmacy

Food Mart

HARDWARE

ONE WAY

"...THOSE WHO VENTURE OUTSIDE MUST SHIELD THEMSELVES FROM THE SUN'S DANGEROUS ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS.

"THIS WILL COME TO PASS, PEOPLE, BUT IT MAY NOT IMPACT ON YOU AND YOURS.

"TO A SELECT FEW, I OFFER--

THE WORLD OF TOMORROW

SUPERMAN

Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

--THE BIOSPHERE, AN ENVIRONMENTALLY PERFECT, SELF-SUFFICIENT CITY OF THE FUTURE!

SHOPPING, SCHOOLS, GOVERNMENT, IN ADDITION TO FARMING AND WILDLIFE HABITATS-- THE BEST THAT *NATURE* HAS TO OFFER!

THE SYSTEM IS SELF-SUSTAINING AND SELF-SUFFICIENT, AND ALL WATER, AIR, AND WASTE MATERIALS WILL BE RECYCLED.

DAN JURGENS penciller
JERRY ORDWAY writer/co-inker
DENNIS JANKE co-inker

GLENN WHITMORE: colorist
JOHN COSTANZA: letterer
JON PETERSON: assoc. editor
MIKE CARLIN: editor

NOW IS THE TIME TO PLAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN...

...THE *FUTURE'S* IN YOUR HANDS.

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THIS PRESENTATION, LOIS?

I THINK HIS *HANDS* ARE IN EVERYONE'S *POCKETS*, CLARK!

YOU *ARE* THE CYNICAL ONE, *LOIS*.

OF COURSE, THESE *ARE* SOME OF THE *WEALTHIEST* PEOPLE IN AMERICA...

EXACTLY. MR. SVEN ELVEN NEEDS OUTSIDE *FINANCING* FOR THIS "*BIOSPHERE*" IDEA!

I KNOW ALL OF YOU ARE "*FORWARD THINKERS*" WHO CAN MAKE THIS MARVEL OF ENGINEERING A *REALITY!*

THIS IS A WORLD THAT FUTURISTS HAVE BEEN PREDICTING SINCE THE 1940s -- A CLEAN, EFFICIENT, *HEALTHY* ENVIRONMENT.

WE *HAVE* THE *TECHNOLOGY*...

...WE NOW NEED YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

HE'S RIGHT ABOUT THE STATE OF THIS PLANET...

PEOPLE, ANIMALS, VEGETATION WILL ALL BE GONE, BUT THE EARTH WILL STILL BE HERE, CLARK...

IT'S STILL NOT TOO LATE...

OUR PRIORITIES ARE SCREWY. WE CRINGE AT THE COST OF CLEANING UP OUR AIR AND WATER...

...BUT WE'LL *GLADLY* SPEND MILLIONS DEVELOPING THE NEXT STATE-OF-THE ART VIDEO PROJECTION SYSTEM...

"...LIKE THIS ONE!"

WHAT A COME-DOWN!

JUST HOLD THE CARD STEADY, TODD.

'SIDES, THIS WILL PAY A *LOT* OF BILLS.

I'M GRATEFUL THAT DIRECTOR I WORKED WITH, ALAN MARKUM, RECOMMENDED ME FOR THIS ASSIGNMENT?

BUT USING YOUR ENERGY POWER TO CREATE HOLO-IMAGES FOR A SALES PRESENTATION?

WILL YOU SHUT UP?

I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE TO RENDER THESE IMAGES CORRECTLY!

IT'S JUST NOT LIKE THE GOOD OLD DAYS, JENNIE...

YOU AND I, AS JADE AND OBSIDIAN, FOUNDING MEMBERS OF THE FIRST INCORPORATED SUPER-GROUP, *INFINITY, INC.*...

ALONGSIDE NORTHWIND, FURY, SILVER SCARAB, BRAINWAVE AND NUKLON--ALL OF US INSPIRED IN OUR OWN WAY BY THE HEROES OF THE '40s AND '50s...

NOT ONLY DID WE MAKE A BIG SPLASH FIGHTING "*BAD GUYS*," BUT WE GOT *PAID* TO DO IT...

...THAT IS, 'TIL THINGS GOT BAD--WHEN SCARAB, UH, HECTOR DIED.

FURY WAS CARRYING *HIS* CHILD, AND JUST HAD THE KID.

A *HEALTHY* BABY, AT THAT!

SHE DESERVES *THAT* AFTER ALL SHE'S BEEN THROUGH.

WITH OUR POWERS, JEN AND I WILL NEVER HAVE A CHANCE AT A "*NORMAL*" LIFE...

HA...*A BROTHER-SISTER* ACT MAKING PICTURES FOR THE RICH AND FAMOUS...

"...DOESN'T GET MUCH STRANGER THAN THIS!"

YOU'RE JOE MORGAN, AREN'T YOU? MONARCH STUDIOS? CAT GRANT'S EX-HUSBAND? MAN, DID *SHE* STICK IT TO MY BOY! I'M VINNIE *EDGE*.

I HEAR-TELL THAT YOU *OWN* THIS PLACE...

THIS SOUNDSTAGE AND THE "*OLD WEST*" SET OUTSIDE PLAYED HOST TO MANY WESTERNS, BACK IN THE LATE FORTIES.

I HAVE *YET* TO MAKE A FILM HERE, THOUGH I DO RENT IT OUT FOR OCCASIONS LIKE THIS...

BY THE WAY, MY DEALINGS WITH YOUR SON WERE JUST BUSINESS--NOTHING PERSONAL.

LOOK, THAT NO-GOODNIK *DESERVED* WHAT HE GOT. I HOLD NO--

UM... NO HARD FEELINGS. 'SCUSE ME, BUT THERE'S SOMEBODY I'VE GOT TO TALK TO.

SAY! *YOU THERE!* YOU'RE CLARK KENT, AREN'T YOU?

UH, YES?

I'M MORGAN EDGE'S OLD MAN! YOUR *EXPOSÉS* LANDED HIM IN *JAIL!*

HOW'D YOU LIKE TO ANCHOR THE *GBS NEWS?* 'COURSE, YOU'D NEED CONTACT LENSES, AND WE'D HAVE TO POOF UP YOUR HAIR A BIT.

UH, NO THANKS...

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, I'D LIKE YOUR ATTENTION NOW FOR--

YOU'RE TALKIN' ABOUT BUILDIN' *STRONG HOLDS*, INSTEAD OF SAVING THIS PLANET...

"... I'VE GOT A BIG PROBLEM WITH THAT!"

"JIM, I'M HERE AS YOUR FRIEND!

"YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T SET FOOT IN THIS PLACE IF I DIDN'T HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO SAY TO YOU!"

"THEN SPIT IT OUT, LUCY!"

JIM, THESE PEOPLE HERE AREN'T YOUR FRIENDS.

YOU'RE *HIDING OUT* HERE, AT THIS CLUB, AVOIDING YOUR PROBLEMS...

YOUR *MOTHER* NEEDS YOU--*WE* ALL NEED YOU.

WE'RE *FRIENDS*--THEY'RE JUST ACQUAINTANCES. NOTHING MORE!

JUST *LEAVE*, OKAY?

YOU WON'T SEE ME IN *HERE* AGAIN!

BACK *OFF.*

SHE'S ONE *COLD* FISH, *OLSEN!* LET HER GO.

YOU DON'T SEE ME RUNNING AFTER HER, DO YOU, JERRY?

HEY! TERRY DEAN! *LONG* TIME.

WHY CAN'T *SHE* BE MORE *LIKE YOU*, TERRY?

LOTS OF BABES IN HERE LIKE TERRY, OLSEN.

AND HERE I THOUGHT I WAS *ONE OF A KIND!*

WHY DON'T YOU STOP BACK AFTER BLAZE'S IS CLOSED-- I'LL LET YOU DRIVE ME HOME. NOW I'VE GOT TO GO BACK TO WORK, RED.

JERRY?

THE OWNER LEFT THIS FOR YOU TO DELIVER. SHE SAID YOU WOULD KNOW *WHERE* TO TAKE IT.

SAY, OLSEN, YOU STILL OFFERIN' A RIDE IN THAT RUSTBUCKET CAR OF YOURS?

...IF YOU'LL TELL ME *HOW* YOUR TUXEDO GOT ALL RIPPED UP LIKE THAT!

WOULD YOU BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD YOU THAT THE OWNER, ANGELICA BLAZE, *DID* IT TO ME?

REALLY?

YEAH, YEAH. BEEN DOING IT SINCE THE CLUB OPENED!

OH. YEAH, SURE...

"WOULD I LIE TO YOU?"

WE'RE GOING TO HELL IN A HAND-CART, GENTS AND LADIES...

THIS HERE FELLA WANTS YOU TO *BUY* YOUR SAFETY FROM A FUTURE THAT YOUR INDUSTRIES AND POWER PLANTS'RE HELPING TO *CREATE?*

ARNING

ALARM WILL SOUND IF OPENED

'WAY I FIGURE, YOU SHOULD TAKE THAT MONEY, AND APPLY IT STRAIGHT AWAY, TO CLEANING YOUR *OWN* BACK-YARDS!

FINALLY! SOMEONE WHO'S TALKING SOME SENSE!

STAY BEHIND ME, LOIS. HE MAY BE *ARMED.*

X-RAY VISION TELLS ME HE *IS.*

WHAT GIVES YOU THE *RIGHT--?*

YOU *INVITED* ME, ELVEN.

WELL, I JUST *UN*INVITED YOU, *MISTER!*

SECURITY!

MY HANDLE'S TOBIAS MANNING...

... AND I'M AFRAID MY "*TERRAMEN*" GOT THE DROP ON YOUR SECURITY!

PUT YOUR HANDS UP, PARDNERS!

WHERE'D *YOU* FOUR COME FROM? ARE THEY FILMING "*THE LONG RIDERS PART 2*" NEXT DOOR?

DON'T BE SASSIN', NOW-- JUST DO WHAT MAC SAID!

IF THEY AS MUCH AS QUIVER, *STUN* 'EM!

HECK, LET'S DO IT ANY-WAYS!

HEY!

LOOK OUT!

SAVE SOMETHING FOR *ME*, BROTHER!

SAY, *NOW* I BET YOU BOYS FEEL AT HOME!

MANNING DIDN'T SAY WE WAS GONNA FIGHT NO SUPER-HEROES!

I WAS ONCE LIKE THEM, SVEN...

OOOF.

RICH, CALLOUS. MY COMPANIES POLLUTED THE RIVER THAT RAN THROUGH OUR TOWN. CHILDREN, OLD FOLK -- THEY *DIED*.

THIS HERE'S LIKE PUTTING A STRING AROUND YOUR FINGER...

IT'S TO *REMIND* YOU ALL OF YOUR *RESPON-SIBILITIES*...

BLAST! I WAITED TOO LONG TO ACT! I'D BETTER...

YOU *MANIAC!* YOU LEVELED THE STUDIO!

THESE ARE INNOCENT PEOPLE!

WHAT IN TARNATION?

LOOK, WHOEVER YOU ARE, NO ONE IS TRULY INNOCENT!

WHOA! JADE'S ENERGY CAGE HAS FADED!

HE'S BECOME *SOLID* AGAIN! HOLD HIM DOWN!

WHO AMONG US HASN'T CHOKED THE LANDFILLS WITH THEIR GARBAGE?

YAHHH

JADE! NO--! *OOF!*

WAP

TAGGED YA!

WHY, I OUGHTA *BRAIN* THIS DANDY.

BACK OFF, DUDE, I AIN'T IN THIS FOR BLOOD.

MAC'S RIGHT, BOYS.

WE'VE MADE OUR *STATEMENT!* THOSE TWO KIDS WERE JUST DOING THEIR JOBS.

THESE *FAT CAT* INDUSTRIALISTS WILL REMEMBER WHAT I SAID.

AT THE VERY LEAST, WE PUT THEM OFF OF THAT THERE BIOSPHERE SCAM!

NOT SO FAST, BUCKAROOS!

I'VE GOT NO FIGHT WITH *YOU.*

YOU'VE GOT ONE *NOW,* MANNING!

BANK

SAL ON

DRY OODS

YOU ENDANGERED FRIENDS OF MINE.

GO AHEAD, COWBOY. DRAW!

Gene

AGAINST YOU?

I'M CALLING YOU OUT.

WELL, OKAY, THEN...

WHOOOOOOO

WHOOOOOOOOSSSSHHHHH

HE CAN'T UPROOT ME, BUT MY DUDS AIN'T HOLDIN' UP TOO WELL...

GOT TO GET A HAND UNDER MY VEST...

SHOULDN'T HAVE LET UP ON ME, HOMBRE.

CONCUSSION BOMBS--HE KNOCKED *ME* OFF BALANCE!

PILE ON 'IM, PARDNERS!

I'D BETTER TAKE A LOOK *THROUGH* THESE COWBOYS... A-HAH!

HIDES

NO NEED TO HOLD BACK ON YOU *ROUGHNECKS!*

RAL STORE

YAHHH

I LIKE A GOOD BRAWL AS MUCH AS YOUR AVERAGE AMERICAN, SUPERMAN--

--BUT I'M NOT DUMB ENOUGH TO THINK I CAN GO ONE ON ONE WITH YOU *ALL* DAY!

POW

MANNING'S *TOUGH*, BUT THAT IS AN *EXO-SKELE-TON* HE'S SPORTING--

--HE'S NOT A ROBOT LIKE HIS "TERRAMEN."

TANG

YOU OKAY, JADE?

LOOK, THEY'RE ALL ROBOTS!

SO I'M GOING TO SNIP THE ONE WHO TAGGED ME!

JADE, NO! HE'S FLESH AND BLOOD!

LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO HIT THE TRAIL!

SPOOOOSH

JADE, CAN YOU--?

TAKE YOUR PICK-- ME OR THEM!

GOTCHA, SUPERMAN!

SSHH

RRR

MY *RIDE'S* HERE, FOLKS, AND I'VE *DEFINITELY* WORN OUT MY WELCOME.

HE'S STANDING STOCK-STILL IN THAT TWISTER!

THAT VEST MUST LET HIM ALTER HIS DENSITY!

HARD

OBSIDIAN, USE YOUR SHADOW POWER! JUST BE *CAREFUL!*

I'LL KEEP THESE BYSTANDERS UNDER A PROTECTIVE ENERGY BUBBLE!

IN *THIS* FORM, I'M INTANGIBLE, SO I CAN SNEAK RIGHT UP ON HIM...

... OR SHOULD I SAY *UNDER* HIM!

MY *SHADOW?*

WHAT IN HECK KIND OF GUY ARE *YOU*?

NO! STOP IT! WITHOUT THE VEST, THIS VORTEX WILL TAKE *UHHHH*--

ARGGHHHHH

FORGOT-- THE SECOND I SOLIDIFIED MY SHADOW-- THIS WIND...

BEING-- *TORN*-- APAAARRRRTT!

THAT'S THE LAST OF THE BYSTANDERS, JADE. I--

MY *BROTHER*-- HE'S IN THAT TORNADO!

FOR GOD'S SAKE, GIRL, KEEP YOUR ATTENTION ON THE CROWD...

...I'LL SEE TO *THIS*.

THE TWISTER'S DISSIPATING -- THERE'S NO ONE INSIDE OF IT! MANNING *OR* OBSIDIAN!

S-SUPERMAN -- WHERE'D THEY *GO*? WHERE'S MY BROTHER?

I DON'T KNOW-- MY X-RAY VISION DIDN'T TURN THEM UP. THEY COULD HAVE TELEPORTED AWAY, OR THEY MAY JUST BE--

--*HERE!* IN YOUR *SHADOW*, AS USUAL, SIS!

TODD!

YOU TWO REALLY PROVED YOURSELVES BACK THERE -- GOOD WORK!

GEEZ, LIKE, THAT MEANS *SO* MUCH... COMING FROM *YOU!* *THANKS!*

MANNING?

IF HE SURVIVED, I SUSPECT WE'LL HEAR FROM HIM AGAIN!

UH-OH -- . GOTTA *FLY!*

'BYE, NOW!

CLARK? *CLARK?* *WHERE ARE YOU??*

I'M HERE, LOIS.

OH, BABE, I WAS SO WORRIED. LAST THING I REMEMBER, WAS THE PLACE BLOWING UP!

IT YOU'RE UP FOR IT, LET'S SHARE A BYLINE AND PIECE THIS STORY TOGETHER!

SVEN! MY LAWYERS WILL BE IN TOUCH ABOUT THIS!

I'M A LAWYER!

I HOPE YOU'RE STILL PLANNING ON PAYING US, SVEN!

I-I-I'LL DO WHAT I CAN, BUT THIS IS SUCH A SET-BACK...

HE'S NOT GETTING MY MONEY FOR THIS SCHEME!

EXCUSE ME, MISS. I'M JOE MORGAN, MONARCH STUDIOS. I'D LIKE YOU TO GIVE ME A CALL. MAYBE WE CAN DO LUNCH.

I AM AN ACTRESS!

YOU WERE WONDERFUL!

WELL, SHALL WE INTERVIEW THE DISHEVELLED RICH AND FAMOUS?

LET'S DO IT... QUICKLY. WE DON'T WANT TO MISS OUR FLIGHT TO KANSAS, NOW DO WE?

YOU DID PROMISE ME FIREWORKS, CLARK!

SMALLVILLE, KANSAS, FOUR HOURS LATER...

CLARK, THIS IS SO GREAT.

IT'S BEEN QUITE A DAY!

THOSE INFINITY, INC. KIDS *WERE* GREAT.

ALONG WITH SUPERMAN THEY SAVED THE DAY! IF ONLY THEY HAD MANAGED TO CATCH THAT TERRAMA--

CLARK? I DON'T WANT TO HEAR ABOUT SUPERMAN, OR ANYONE ELSE!

NEXT. *THINGS GET* **HOT!** ISSUE. *READ* "LIVES IN THE BALANCE"!

BUT FIRST PICK UP *ADVENTURES* #469 *and ACTION* #656, AS EVERYTHING IN THE *SUPERMAN* LINE REALLY STARTS TO GO TO HECK!

WELL, WELL, WELL! LOOKS LIKE OL'R MYSTERIOUS MAN WITH THE SECRET IDENTITY--
--HAS RETURNED TO SMALLVILLE FOR A VISIT!

YOU KNOW, CRUSADING BIG-CITY JOURNALIST BY DAY--

--AND SIMPLE FARM BOY ON WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS! HOW YA' DOIN', CLARKIE?

LOIS, LET ME INTRODUCE YOU TO PETE ROSS. BOYHOOD PAL, SMALL COUNTY AGENT--

--AND A GUY WHOSE TIMING STINKS!

Y'SEE, MISS LANE, THE FIREWORKS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE IN THE SKY!

AS A DULY SWORN OFFICER OF THE COURT, IT'S MY DUTY TO PROTECT THE EYES OF INNOCENT YOUNGSTERS FROM--

PETE, IF YOU DON'T LIGHTEN UP I'LL TELL YOUR MOTHER WHO BLEW UP THE POLICE STATION'S MAILBOX IN SIXTH GRADE!

IS THIS A PRIVATE PARTY OR CAN ANYBODY JOIN?

WHY, HELLO, LANA! NICE TO SEE YOU AGAIN!

UH-OH... THIS SITUATION HAS SUDDENLY DEVELOPED THE POTENTIAL TO OUTDO THOSE FIREWORKS.

LIFE MUST BE TREATING YOU PRETTY WELL, LOIS! SEEMS LIKE HALF THE PAPERS IN KANSAS CARRY YOUR COLUMNS!

THEN I'M ONLY HALFWAY THERE! SO, HOW ARE THINGS AT THE... AH... DRESS SHOP?

OOOH... HOPE THAT DIDN'T SOUND LIKE A PUT-DOWN!

GET ME OUTTA HERE.

HEY, THIS IS *GREAT*-- JUST LIKE HIGH SCHOOL DAYS! HOW 'BOUT WE ALL JUMP IN MY PICK-UP AND GRAB A PIZZA!

WE AREN'T THE THREE MUSKETEERS ANYMORE, PETE!

AFTER MONTHS OF SEARCHING WE'VE *FINALLY* FOUND *HIM!*

THE MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR OUR DEFEAT AND HUMILIATION IS IN OUR GRASP AT LAST! PREPARE TO *ATTACK!*

BESIDES, LOIS AND I PROMISED MA THAT WE'D--

BTHOOO

HEY, THAT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE FIRE-WORKS!

NASTY BOYS

DAN JURGENS
STORY & ART
ART THIBERT
FINISHED ART
ALBERT DE GUZMAN
LETTERER
GLENN WHITMORE
COLORIST
JONATHAN PETERSON
ASSOC. EDITOR
MIKE CARLIN
EDITOR

SUPERMAN

CREATED BY
SIEGEL & SHUSTER

IS THAT REALLY A *SPACE SHIP*? WHAT'S IT DOING IN SMALLVILLE?

HARD TELLING, LANA, BUT UNTIL WE KNOW, WE'D BETTER FIND COVER IN THAT GROVE OF TREES!

JUST WHAT EARTH NEEDS-- ANOTHER ALIEN *INVASION!*

AW, C'MON, LOIS! HOW DO YOU KNOW THEY'RE NOT FRIENDLIES?

LOOK AT THAT MARTIAN MANHUNTER AND THAT KILLOWATT GUY IN THE JUSTICE LEAGUE! THEY'RE OKAY! RIGHT?

CALL IT A REPORTER'S HUNCH, PETE! HEY, WHERE'D CLARK DISAPPEAR TO?

UHH... I SAW HIM UP THE HILL HELPING OTHERS FIND COVER!

MAN--TALK ABOUT MURPHY'S LAW! "WHATEVER *CAN* GO WRONG, *WILL* GO WRONG!"

JOHN DEERE

FOR ONCE I DECIDE TO DRESS CASUALLY--

--AND TRY TO RELAX--

OH, JONATHAN--

--AND I *STILL* END UP NEEDING--

--THE OLD MONKEY SUIT!

--IT'S GETTING PRETTY BREEZY OUT THERE! BE A DEAR AND CLOSE THE WINDOWS FOR ME?

DEEP IN COLORADO, AT THE NORTH AMERICAN DEFENSE COMMAND CENTER--

US AIR FORCE

COLONEL, WE'VE BEEN TRACKING A BOGEY FROM THE EDGE OF THE ATMOSPHERE THAT JUST SET DOWN IN SMALL COUNTY, KANSAS!

LOOKS LIKE IT'S NOT OF EARTH ORIGIN, SIR!

DO THE SHIP'S SPECS MATCH ANY KNOWN HOSTILES LIKE THE KHUNDS OR OKAARANS?

SMALL COUNTY

NEGATIVE. THIS ONE LOOKS TO BE NEW, SIR.

OKAY, SCRAMBLE A COUPLE OF STEALTH FIGHTERS OVER TO KANSAS PRONTO! AND, HARKINS--

"--LET'S ASSUME THESE ARE BAD GUYS! I WANT OUR FIGHTERS ARMED TO THE TEETH!"

I ALWAYS HATE TO SEE THINGS LIKE THIS HAPPENING AROUND SMALLVILLE!

IF THESE ALIENS ARE AFTER ME, HOW DID THEY FIND ME?

AND IF IT'S *NOT* ME THEY'RE AFTER--

--WHAT DO THEY WANT IN A PEACEFUL LITTLE TOWN LIKE THIS ONE?

NO! WE WANTED *KENT!* THAT FOOL SUPERMAN WILL JUST GET IN THE WAY!

WHATEVER IT IS THEY'RE LOOKING FOR--

SHOOOM

SKRAKK

BBOOWW

HOKAYYY--

--NOW AT LEAST I KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSONALITIES I'M DEALING WITH.

BELLIGERENT, POWERFUL AND STUPID!

<YOU FIRED IN ERROR, YB 2. HE IS NOT ONE OF THOSE WE SEEK.>

<HE INTENDS TO INTERFERE WITH OUR *HUNT*, R3 B2. HE MUST BE DEALT WITH.>

THE HUNTERS! HOW DID THEY FIND US SO SOON AFTER OUR *ESCAPE?*

NO MATTER! WHILE SUPERMAN OCCUPIES THEM--

--WE'LL SEARCH FOR *KENT!* HE MUST BE HIDDEN IN THIS *GROVE* WITH THE OTHER HUMANS!

<HAVE YOU LOCKED IN ON OUR QUARRY, YBZ?>

<THEY ARE NEAR! VERY NEAR!>

THAT WEIRD DIALECT OF YOURS SOUNDS LIKE RADIO STATIC TO ME--

--BUT I KNOW NASTY WHEN I HEAR IT!

HOO-EE! THAT THERE'S A PURDY GOOD LOOKIN' ROCKET SHIP, HUH, LIL?

'TIS INDEED, JUNIOR. 'TIS INDEED. MIGHTY FINE.

WHAT'S WITH YOU TWO? I MEAN, THAT'S SOME REAL SERIOUS LOOKING BUSINESS GOING DOWN OUT THERE!

FOR ALL WE KNOW, SUPERMAN COULD GET HIS TEETH KICKED IN PROTECTING US!

AW, DON'T BE TELLIN' ME YOU BUY THAT ACT, PETEY!

THAT SUPER-HERO STUFF IS NUTHIN' BUT WIRES AN' SPECIAL EFFECTS!

PETERSON'S PUB

YOU TELL 'IM, JUNIOR! THEM ALIENS IS PROB'LY JES SOME CHEAPO ACTORS IN WEIRDO SUITS!

THEY'RE IGNORING ME! IT'S ALMOST LIKE THEY'RE LOOKING FOR SOMETHING--

--SOMEONE ELSE!

<HOLD! MY SENSES HAVE PINPOINTED OUR TARGETS!>

<AS HAVE MINE! THERE-- IN THAT CLUMP OF EARTH VEGETATION.!>

THE BLOOD-THIRSTY FOOLS ARE FIRING AT THOSE INNOCENT ONLOOKERS!

FZAKK

NO.! NOT WHILE I'M AROUND!

THESE GUYS REALLY MEAN BUSINESS! LOOKS LIKE THEY'RE GOING TO BURN EVERYTHING IN SIGHT TO GET WHAT THEY WANT!

FWOOSH

<FULFILL THE MISSION! FIND THE ESCAPEES!>

FWOOSH

I CAN EXTINGUISH THESE BLAZES AS FAST AS THEY CAN SET THEM--

--BUT IT KEEPS ME FROM GOING AFTER TWEEDLEDUM AND TWEEDLEDEE!

<OVER THERE! OUR PREY!>

<HIGH INTENSITY BURN-->

<--MAXIMUM POWER!>

KFOOSH

WILL THEY STOP AT *NOTHING*?

THEY ARE *HUNTERS*! THEY WOULD BURN THIS ENTIRE STATE--

--IN ORDER TO CAPTURE US!

ENOUGH.

<ENOUGH INDEED.>

<BURN THE FOOL.>

CHASE ONE TO ANCHOR BASE. BAD NEWS, GENTLEMEN!

ARRGH! FEELS LIKE-- I'M BEING TURNED INSIDE OUT!

WE TRACKED OUR BOGEY AND FOUND TWO UGLIES WORKIN' SUPERMAN OVER PRETTY GOOD!

WE ALSO GOT A COUPLE HUNDRED CIVILIANS IN THE AREA! ANY ORDERS?

SWITCH YOUR WEAPONS SYSTEMS OFF SAFETY, CHASE ONE! IF YOU GET A CLEAR SHOT AT THE PERPS--

--FIRE!

THEIR ENERGY IS *INCREDIBLE*! ALMOST AS STRONG AS DARKSEID'S OMEGA BEAMS!

WHO ARE THESE GUYS?

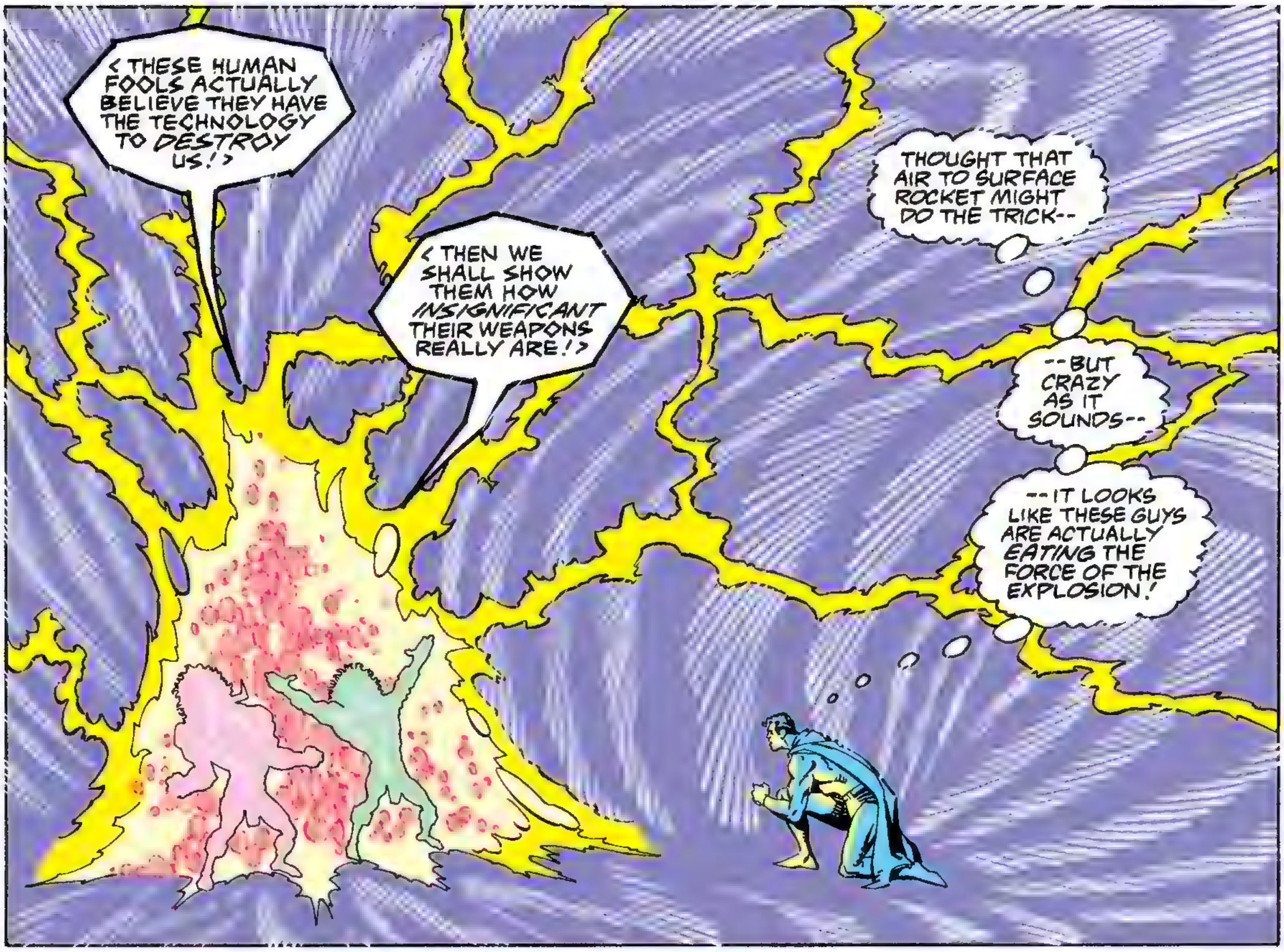
THE BIG RED "S" ISN'T DOING TOO GOOD!

THERE'S ENOUGH DISTANCE BETWEEN THE CIVILIANS AND THE BIG BAD BISON BROTHERS THAT I'M GOING IN FOR THE BONUS POINTS!

GOT 'EM!

LOOKS LIKE A CLEAN KILL!

VOKKA-BOOM


< THESE HUMAN FOOLS ACTUALLY BELIEVE THEY HAVE THE TECHNOLOGY TO DESTROY US! >
< THEN WE SHALL SHOW THEM HOW INSIGNIFICANT THEIR WEAPONS REALLY ARE! >
THOUGHT THAT AIR TO SURFACE ROCKET MIGHT DO THE TRICK--
--BUT CRAZY AS IT SOUNDS--
--IT LOOKS LIKE THESE GUYS ARE ACTUALLY EATING THE FORCE OF THE EXPLOSION!
BETTER GET THEM OUT OF HERE WHILE I HAVE THE CHANCE--
--BEFORE THE EXTRA ENERGY MAKES THEM STRONGER!
THOSE TUSKS MAKE IT PRETTY EASY TO GRAB TH--
HEY!
NO WONDER THEY CAN DO SUCH AMAZING STUFF WITH ENERGY--
--THEIR "BODIES" ARE NOTHING MORE THAN CONTAINMENT SHELLS!
THESE BOZOS ARE REALLY MADE UP OF PURE ENERGY!

IF THESE GUYS DON'T HAVE ANY MASS--

--IT STANDS TO REASON--

--THAT THEY'LL BE LEFT QUITE HELPLESS--

--IF I GET RID OF THE SHELL--

--AND LEAVE THEM IN THEIR NATURAL STATE!

WAY TO GO, SUPERMAN!

LOOKS LIKE THE *MAN OF STEEL* DOES IT AGAIN!

:HARUMPH:! I *STILL* SAY IT'S FIXED... LIKE WRESTLING!

JUST AS I THOUGHT. WITHOUT YOUR EQUIPMENT TO CONTROL YOUR ENERGY--

--YOU GUYS ARE HELPLESS!

YEAH, BUT WE AREN'T!

WHO THE--

WHAM!

THANKS FOR BASHING THOSE *HUNTERS*!

SURPRISE, SURPRISE.

I THOUGHT YOU TWO WARE DEAD!

METROPOLIS.

EVENIN', MR. WHITE. GOTTA LOG SOME HOLIDAY OVERTIME, HUH?

DAILY PLANET

THE NEWS NEVER SLEEPS, HODGE.

SOMETHING BIG GOING DOWN, CHIEF? I MEAN, YOU *NEVER* HANDLE THE NIGHT BEAT!

JUST CATCHIN' UP ON PAPERWORK, OLSEN! WHAT'S YOUR EXCUSE?

NIXON RESIGNS

SINCE THERE'S A SKELETON CREW WORKING, I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO EXPERIMENT IN THE DARK ROOM!

AFTER THAT, THOUGH, IT'S OFF TO *BLAZES* FOR SOME *HOT* PARTYING!

PEARL HARBOR ATTACKED

EDITOR

HMPH! FROM WHAT I HEAR, SOMEONE SHOULD BURN THE PLACE DOWN!

SHOULDN'T HAVE SNAPPED AT JIMMY THAT WAY--

--BUT THE RUMOR MILL SAYS THAT PLACE IS A HAVEN FOR DRUG PUSHERS!

AND WORST OF ALL, MY SON JERRY SEEMS TO BE SPENDING A LOT OF TIME THERE.

WHERE DID WE EVER GO WRONG?

SEEMS LIKE THAT KID'S BEEN IN TROUBLE SINCE HE COULD WALK!

HARD TO BELIEVE HE WAS SUCH A GOOD KID ONCE UPON A TIME.

THEN HE STARTED HANGING OUT WITH THE WRONG CROWD --GOT INVOLVED WITH GOD KNOWS WHAT.

AND NOW-- THAT *BLAZE'S* PLACE! WHAT'S THE KID UP TO?

SMALL COUNTY, KANSAS.

DREADNAUGHT AND PSI-PHON!

YOU TWO WERE A COUPLE OF MECHANICAL PROBES SENT TO EARTH SCOUTING SITES FOR A BIG INVASION!

AFTER YOU GOT WHIPPED, I THOUGHT YOU SELF-DESTRUCTED!*

RIDICULOUS! WE WERE MERELY TELEPORTED AWAY UNTIL WE COULD RETURN FOR VENGEANCE!

DREADNAUGHT SPEAKS TRUTHFULLY!

*ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #442.

FOR IT WAS A DESPICABLY ORDINARY HUMAN, CLARK KENT, WHO DISGRACED US IN BATTLE!

OUR BROTHERS RIDICULED OUR HUMILIATION AND NOW WE SEEK REDEMPTION!

GIVE US CLARK KENT!

THESE GUYS ARE EQUIPPED TO BLOCK NATURAL POWERS, SO IT TOOK THE UNASSUMING CLARK KENT... AND A FORCE FIELD TO BEAT THEM!

ENOUGH TALK! PRAY TO YOUR GODS FOR ACCEPTANCE IN THE NEXT LIFE!

SO YOU WANT TO PLAY THE OLD HEAD BASHING GAME, HUH?

OKAY, BUBBA--

--TAKE YOUR BEST SHOT.

GLADLY, YOU LITTLE WORM!

BRKAAM

POUND HIM-- GRIND HIS BONES TO DUST!

I PULVERIZED YOU BEFORE! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE STANDING UP TO ME!

BDOOM

URRRK!

FAP

BELIEVE IT, DREADNAUGHT.

THIS IS MY SHOW NOW.

KRAKOWW

THIS DEFIES EXPLANATION! MY PSIONIC POWERS SHOULD LEAVE THE MAN OF STEEL HELPLESS!

DREAM ON, PSI-PHON! YOUR BAG OF TRICKS MIGHT HAVE BAFFLED ME ONCE--BUT NOT NOW!

YOUR ABILITY TO DELVE INTO MY MIND--BLOCK ME FROM USING MY POWERS--

--IS *USELESS*! NOW THAT I KNOW WHAT YOUR TALENT IS, I CAN CONCENTRATE AND KEEP YOU OUT!

OO!

KRAKK

SEE, I'VE HAD SOME PRETTY TOUGH TIMES LATELY.

SEEMS LIKE EVERYBODY BUT THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE POOR HAVE COME TO EARTH LOOKING FOR TROUBLE.

OO-OO-OOO!

BRAINIAC, MXYZPTLK, MAXIMA, LOBO, DRAAGA...IT'S BEEN ONE *BOZO* AFTER ANOTHER!

ON TOP OF ALL THAT, I HAD TO DEAL WITH INTERGANG *AND* BATMAN!

OO-OOO!

AND JUST WHEN I THOUGHT THINGS HAD SETTLED DOWN--

--YOU GUYS SHOWED UP.

WELL, I *HAVE* HAD IT!

UH-OH! THIS IS GONNA BE *MESSY*!

I CAN'T LOOK.

OH, I'D GIVE *ANYTHING* FOR A CAMERA!

OOOWEEE! THIS SHER BEATS WATCHIN' *HEE HAW*!

:WIMPER:

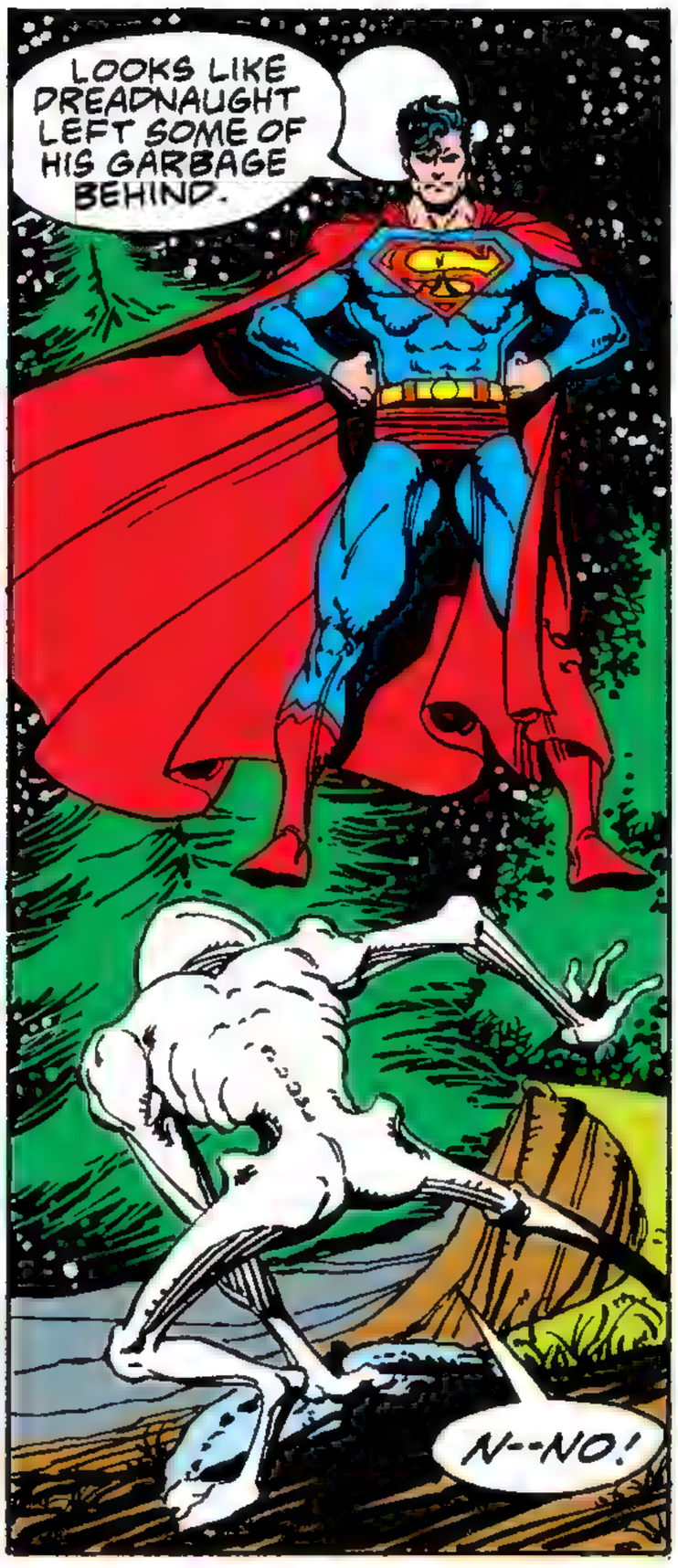
BOOOOM

AIIIIEEEEEEEEEE

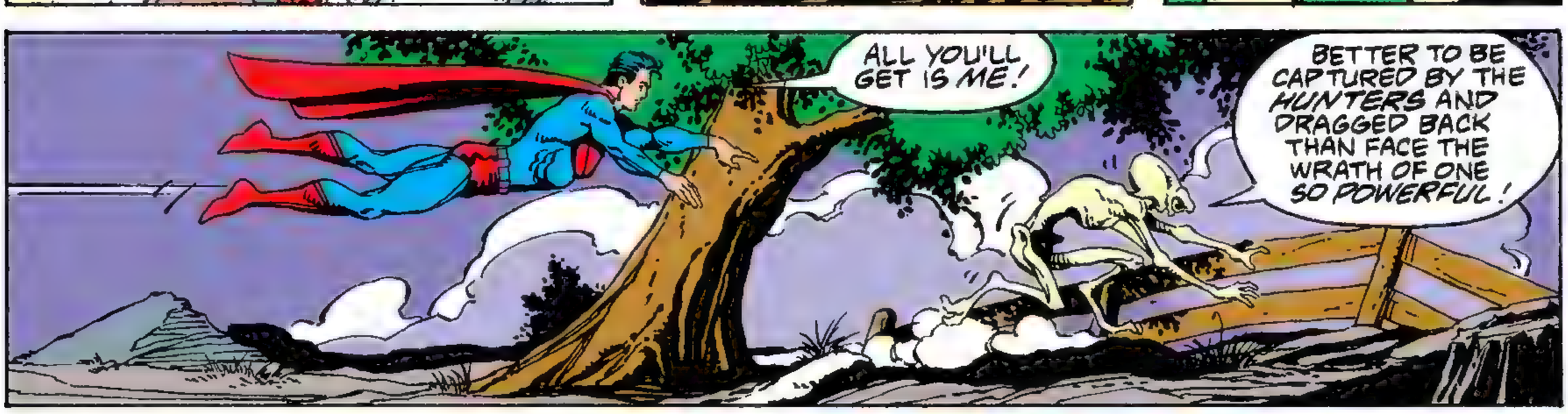
HERE'S HOPING YOU LIKE LIFE ON JUPITER!

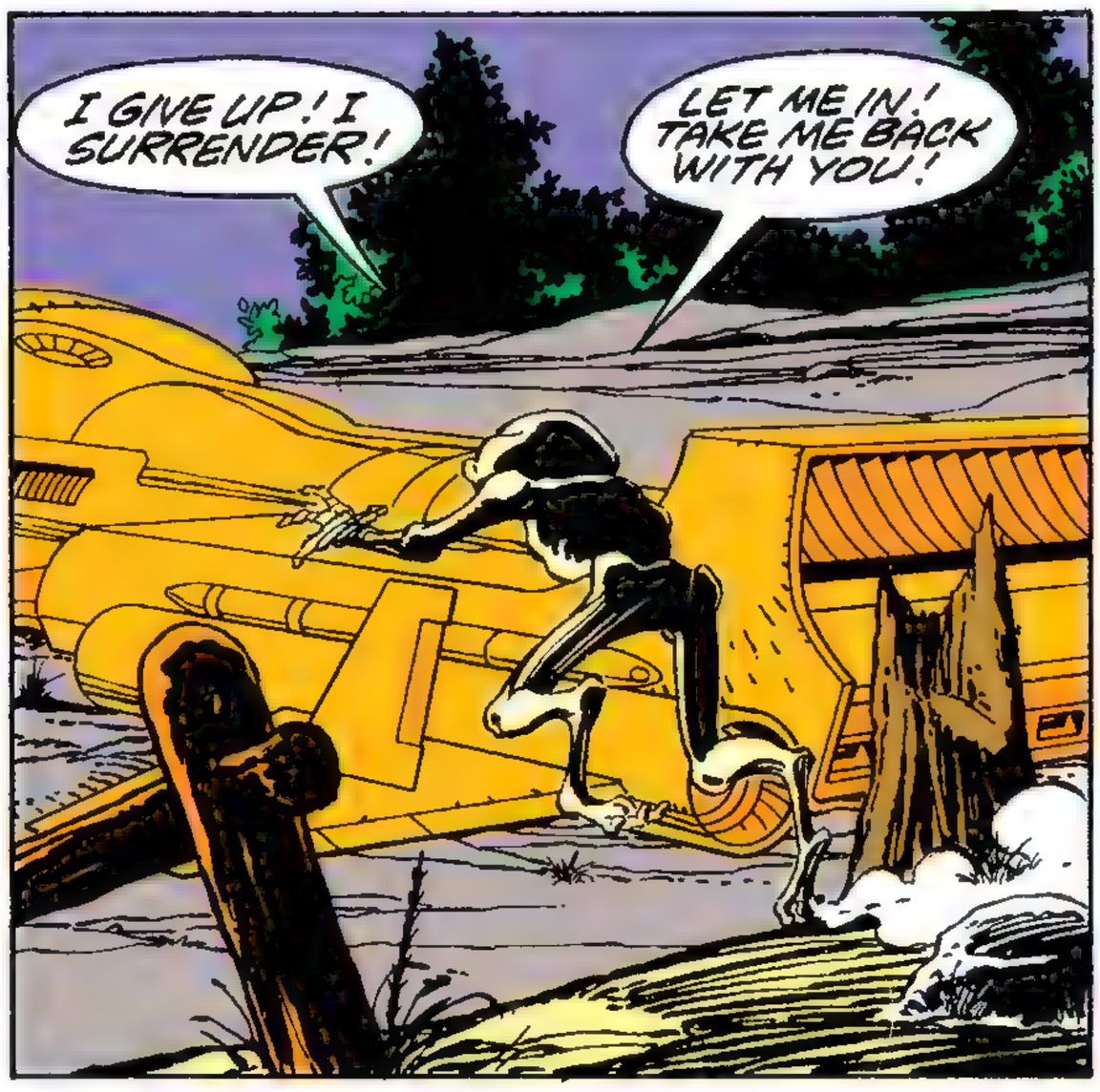
ERF. THIS ISN'T WORKING AS WELL AS LAST TIME!

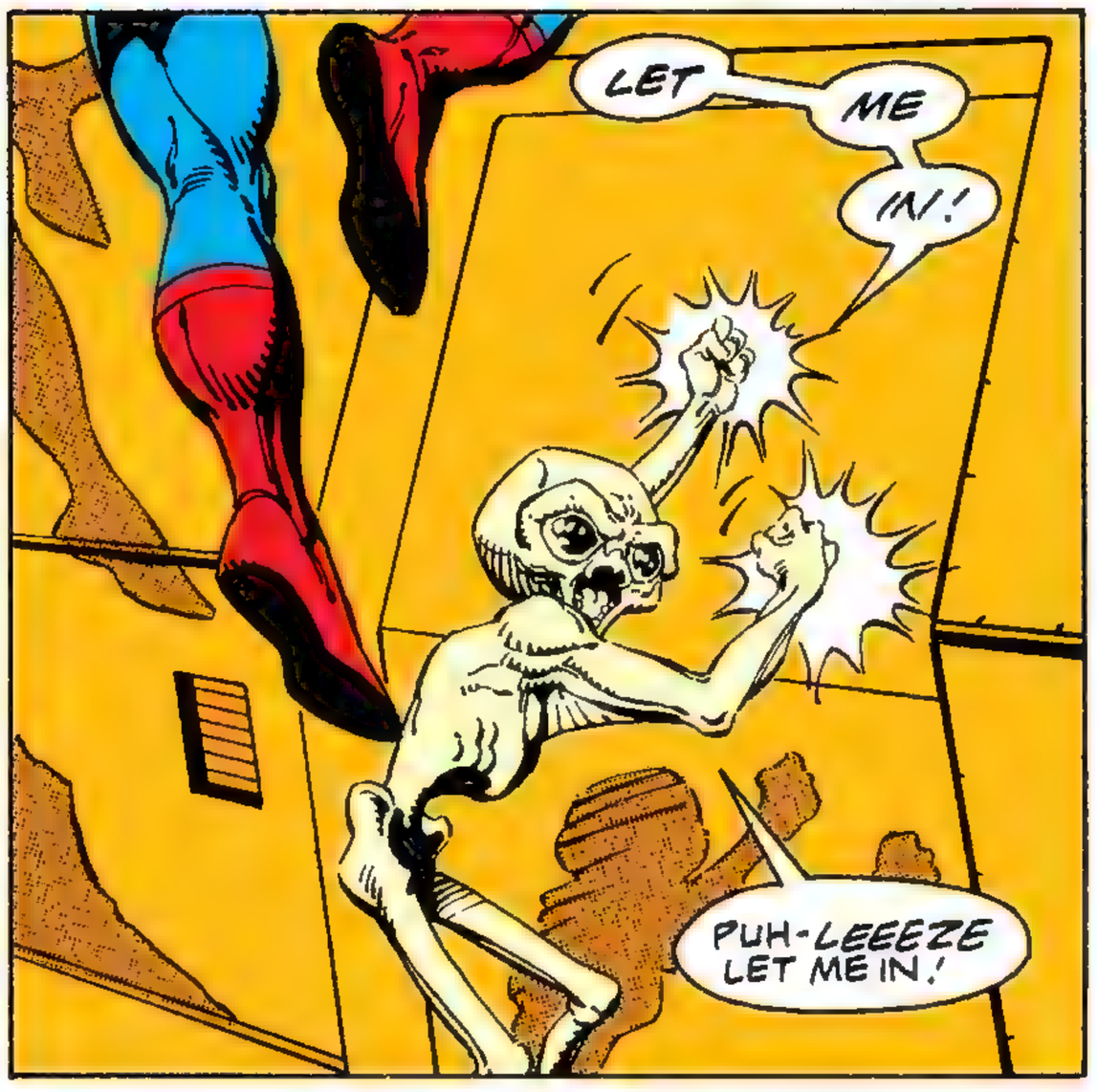
EEEEEIAA


LOOKS LIKE DREADNAUGHT LEFT SOME OF HIS GARBAGE BEHIND.
INTERESTING.
N--NO!

W-WE INTENDED NO H-HARM TO YOU!
ALL WE WANTED WAS CLARK KENT!


ALL YOU'LL GET IS ME!
BETTER TO BE CAPTURED BY THE HUNTERS AND DRAGGED BACK THAN FACE THE WRATH OF ONE SO POWERFUL!


I GIVE UP! I SURRENDER!
LET ME IN! TAKE ME BACK WITH YOU!


LET
ME
IN!
PUH-LEEEZE LET ME IN!

I DON'T GET THIS! I THOUGHT THIS SHIP WAS PART OF YOUR GREAT INVASION FLEET--

--BUT YOU'RE ACTING LIKE YOU'RE *SURRENDERING* TO IT!

SWEAR THAT YOU'LL *SPARE* ME AND I'LL TELL YOU EVERYTH--

SILENCE, YOU INSIGNIFICANT SPAWN OF A SLUG!

FORGIVE OUR INTRUSION ON YOUR PLANET, SUPERMAN.

I AM PETLIN, BREEMMILL'S MATE, AND IT WAS I WHO SENT THE HUNTERS AFTER HIM AND J'ANKWAY.

LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT...

YOU'RE TELLING ME DREADNAUGHT IS JUST A RUN-AWAY HUSBAND?

IN YOUR SOCIETAL TERMS, YES.

OCCASIONALLY HE AND J'ANKWAY-- PSI-PHON TO YOU--

-- JOURNEY THE UNIVERSE LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE AND EXCITEMENT.

I ULTIMATELY SEEK THEM OUT AND EXTRICATE THEM FROM THEIR SELF-INFLICTED TROUBLES.

BUT THEY CLAIMED THEY WERE SCOUTS FOR A GREAT INVASION FORCE!

I THOUGHT THEY REPRESENTED A RACE THAT COULD *CONQUER* EARTH!

GOODNESS. NOT *THAT* AGAIN.

I SCARCELY BELIEVED THERE WAS A SOUL LEFT IN THE UNIVERSE THAT WOULD FALL FOR THAT TIRED OLD LINE BELIEVED!

SO ALL THAT STUFF ABOUT AN INVASION FORCE WAS A PUT-ON? A LIE?!

EXACTLY. THE BOYS HAVE A PRIMITIVE COMPLEX THAT COMPELS THEM TO *FIGHT* THEIR WAY THROUGH THE UNIVERSE!

THEY USE THE INVASION TALE TO GIVE THEM AN AURA OF INVINCIBILITY THEY WOULD OTHERWISE LACK.

UNBELIEVABLE! DREADNAUGHT AND PSI-PHON ARE NOTHING MORE THAN A COUPLE OF ROWDIES LOOKING FOR A FIGHT!

YES. NOW, IF YOU WILL GIVE ME MY MATE, I WILL GLADLY LEAVE.

UHH... HE SHOULD BE JOINING US ANY SECOND.

AAIIEE*

OH, MY.

DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT AN EXPERT ON DREADNAUGHT'S PHYSIOLOGY--

BRRUUUUP

--BUT HE LOOKS OKAY. ALTHOUGH HE MIGHT BE SORE FOR A FEW DAYS.

THE *LEAST* HE DESERVES FOR THE DISTRESS HE'S INITIATED!

YUP. AND ONE MORE THING...

IF THOSE TWO *EVER* FEEL LIKE DOING THIS AGAIN, I KNOW OF A PLACE JUST PERFECT FOR THEIR STYLE!

EVER HEARD OF AN ARTIFICIAL PLANET CALLED *WARWORLD*?

MINUTES LATER...

SHEEE-OOT! WILLYA LOOKIT THEM ALIENS GO!

SAY, HAS ANYBODY SEEN CLARK KENT?

AND CHECK THIS HERE SNAZZY LOOKIN' SOOVEENIR OUT, WOULDYA, LIL!

MIGHTY PURDY, JUNIOR. MIGHTY FINE!

PETERSON'S PUB

MILES AWAY, THE UNUSUAL SHIP DOES NOT LEAVE EARTH'S ATMOSPHERE AS ONE MIGHT EXPECT...

INSTEAD, IT KNIFES THROUGH STARLIT SKIES ON A NORTHERLY COURSE--

--TOWARD WYOMING.

ONCE THERE, A MASSIVE, CAMOUFLAGED ENTRY WAY OPENS OUT OF THE GRASSY PLAINS--

--AND SILENTLY RECEIVES THE ALIEN SPACE CRAFT.

DREADNAUGHT, YOU AND PSI-PHON ARE FOOLS! IDIOTS!

IF MY RECOVERY TEAM HADN'T PULLED YOUR FAT OUT OF THE FIRE--

--YOU MIGHT HAVE SPILLED THE BEANS... TO SUPERMAN OF ALL PEOPLE!

AND ALL BECAUSE YOU CAN'T CONTROL YOUR BASER HATRED FOR THAT CIVILIAN KENT!

BESIDES... THE LAST THING WE NEED AROUND HERE--

--IS TO GET AN INVESTIGATOR WITH KENT'S SKILLS POKING HIS NOSE INTO THIS OPERATION!

USAF

BETTER THEY BOTH GO BACK WHERE THEY BELONG--

"--TO METROPOLIS."

SEE HOW EASY THE SYSTEM WORKS, WHITE?

YOU BRING US THE MONEY AND WE GIVE YOU THE GOODS!

NOW ALL YOU GOTTA DO IS RETURN IT TO THE PURCHASER, KID! AND *DON'T* SCREW UP!

I'VE NEVER LET THE GANG DOWN BEFORE, HAVE I?

SORRY, YOUNG MAN... BUT THIS TIME YOU *WILL*.

HEY! WHITE CROSSED US! THIS BAG'S FULLA COCKROACHES!

HE *STOLE* OUR MONEY! THAT KID'S A *DEAD MAN*!

MAN! THERE'S THE OWNER--THAT HOT LOOKIN' ANGELICA!

I KNOW IT'S STUPID--BUT IT SEEMS LIKE SHE'S ALWAYS GIVIN' ME THE BIG HAIRY EYEBALL OR SOMETHIN'!

PROBABLY JUST A CASE OF THE HEEBIE JEEBIES! FORGET IT... AND THINK ABOUT ALL THE DOUGH I'M MAKI--

HEY, HOW'S IT GOING, AMIGO?

YOU LOOK LIKE A LAWYER OR SOMETHING WITH THAT BRIEFCASE!

EXIT

DELIVERY ENTRANCE ONLY!

YEAH... YEAH... GOOD TO SEE YOU, TOO, OLSEN!

UHH--I GOTTA RUN A QUICK ERRAND AND THEN THE BEER'S ON ME! 'KAY?

YOU AIN'T GOIN' NOWHERE, WHITE! YOU *STIFFED INTERGANG*!

THINK YOU'RE PRETTY FUNNY GIVIN' US A BAG OF *COCKROACHES*?

BUT YOUR MONEY'S IN THERE! I *SAW IT*!

TELL IT TO ST. PETER, KID!

CHILL OUT, GUYS! THIS IS JUST A MISUNDERSTAND--

DELIVERY ENTRANCE

DON'T LIKE RED'S FACE-- DO HIM, TOO.

BOOM BOOM BOOM

DELICIOUS.

BUT YOU BOY'S WON'T BE GOING TO ST. PETER.

YOU'LL BE COMING TO ME.

METROPOLIS REFUSE

DAILY PLANET

NEXT WEEK IN ACTION 656 "SUPERMAN GOES TO BLAZE'S.!"

SUPERMAN

PART ONE OF THREE

"GOING TO BLAZE'S"

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TRAUMA TEAM— REPORT TO E.O.R. ON THE DOUBLE!

OUTTA THE WAY, TIMMONS! THESE BOYS ARE IN NO SHAPE TO TALK TO REPORTERS!

OH GOD, THAT'S—!

SURGERY

THEY'LL NEED WHOLE BLOOD... PREP 'EM AND TYPE 'EM!

YEAH, I'M SURE! JERRY WHITE AND JIMMY OLSEN — I'D RECOGNIZE 'EM ANYWHERE. THEY WERE JUST WHEELED INTO EMERGENCY SURGERY.

WHAT? YEGGHR...

"...I'LL WAIT."

TIC TIC TIC TIC

WHA—? CHIEF! MRS WHITE?

THE NIGHT EDITOR CALLED —H-HE SAID—!

EMER

WHAT'S HAPPENED TO MY BOY, TIMMONS? WHERE'S OLSEN? GREAT CAESAR'S GHOST—

"—WHAT'S GOING ON?"

...AND ACCORDING TO THE REPORT, THEY WERE BOTH SHOT OUTSIDE SOME CLUB CALLED BLAZE'S." POLICE AREN'T SURE WHY... THEY'RE STILL GOING OVER THE SCENE.

SURGERY

PERRY—!

"IT HAPPENED IN ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #469, STILL ON SALE!

DOCTOR, I'M PERRY WHITE... MY SON AND ONE OF MY EMPLOYEES—!

THE GUNSHOT VICTIMS?

I WISH I COULD TELL YOU THEY'LL BE FINE, BUT IT'S STILL TOO EARLY TO TELL. WE SHOULD KNOW MORE...

"— BY MORNING"

HELLO, CLARK! HOW WAS YOUR TRIP?

SURPRISINGLY EVENTFUL, ANDREA... BUT NOT ALTOGETHER UNPLEASANT.

THAT'S GOOD AT LEAST

I WAS SO SORRY TO HEAR ABOUT THE SHOOTINGS

SHOOTINGS?

YOU DIDN'T KNOW? OH, CLARK, I'M SORRY...

IT WAS ON THE RADIO THIS MORNING— YOUR FRIEND JIMMY OLSEN AND ANOTHER BOY WERE SHOT BY DRUG DEALERS

WHAT?! WHERE WERE THEY TAKEN? WHICH HOSPITAL?

METROPOLIS GENERAL, CLARK—?

LATER!

ANDREA SAID THAT DRUG DEALERS WERE INVOLVED...

...WAS JIMMY TRACKING DOWN A STORY?

I'M SUPPOSED TO BE HIS FRIEND... WHERE WAS I WHEN HE NEEDED ME...?

WHERE WAS SUPERMAN?

I HAVEN'T BEEN AROUND MUCH FOR JIM LATELY, IN EITHER OF MY IDENTITIES

AS A MATTER OF FACT I HAVEN'T EVEN SEEN HIM ALIVE SINCE I HELPED BRING HIM AND MOTHER HOME

I HAVEN'T HEARD HIM GIVE ANY ALIAS FOR SUPERMAN'S HELP AND I HAVEN'T RUN INTO HIM AS CLARK KENT SINCE I STARTED FOOLARDING FOR THE DAILY PLANET

I'VE BEEN WANTING TO TALK WITH HIM—

EMERG

RED CROSS

I WAS PRETTY COLD WITH A LOT OF OLD RESENTMENTS DURING MY TENURE AS EDITOR OF METROPOLIS—I STILL OWE JIM AN APOLOGY—

—I PRAY THERE'S STILL TIME TO MAKE IT—

EMERG AMBULANCE

—I WONDER WHO THE OTHER BOY WAS?

JERRY WAS A FRIEND OF MINE NO MATTER IF I MAY I HADN'T BEEN SO WRAPPED UP IN MYSELF—IF ONLY I'D KNOWN—IT'S BEEN A MONTH SINCE I SAW HIM LAST—

I'D BEEN LOOKING FOR ID, PLEASE—

—THE LAST TIME I SAW MY SON WE HAD AN ARGUMENT. SEEMS LIKE ME AND I WERE ALWAYS ARGUING. ALL I WANT NOW IS A CHANCE TO TELL HIM I'M SORRY—TO LET HIM KNOW HOW MUCH WE LOVE HIM.

HEY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT! THE DOCTORS HERE ARE GOOD

YOU'LL GET THAT CHANCE

PLEASE EXCUSE ME NOW - I'M GOING TO GO LIGHT SOME CANDLES FOR JERRY AND THE OLSEN BOY

THANK YOU, JOSE

YES.. THANKS

AND THEN GANGBUSTER IS GOING TO FIND OUT WHO PUT THEM IN THE HOSPITAL!

PERRY - ALICE!

I HEARD ABOUT JERRY ... THE ADMISSIONS NURSE TOLD ME THAT JERRY WAS HURT, TOO! WHAT HAPPENED?

W-WE'RE NOT CERTAIN

ALICE, COVERING UP FOR THE BOY WON'T HELP HIM.

THE POLICE THINK THAT JERRY WAS INVOLVED IN A DRUG DEAL, KENT.

...EVIDENTLY, HE CROSSED THE WRONG PEOPLE, THEY CAME AFTER HIM...

...AND YOUNG OLSEN GOT IN THE WAY

EXCUSE ME

WHAT'S IT DOCTOR? ARE THEY GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT?

WELL, THEY BOTH SUFFERED CONSIDERABLE TRAUMA BUT THERE SEEMED TO BE NO IRREVERSIBLE DAMAGE TO ANY OF THE MAJOR ORGANS.

THEN, THEY'LL RECOVER--?

THEY SHOULD GIVEN THEIR YOUTH AND PHYSICAL CONDITION BUT THEY REMAIN CRITICAL

FRANKLY, THEIR VITAL SIGNS ARE DETERIORATING, AND WE DON'T KNOW WHY! I'M VERY SORRY, I WISH I COULD BE MORE OPTIMISTIC--

"--BUT I'M AFRAID THERE'S CAUSE FOR GRAVE CONCERN."

NO! I WON'T ACCEPT THAT--

--THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE!

I WISH THERE WERE LEX-- I TRULY DO BUT I'VE BEEN OVER THE TEST RESULTS FIVE TIMES AND--!

LABORATORIES HAVE BEEN KNOWN TO MAKE MISTAKES, KELLEY. SCHEDULE A NEW BATTERY OF TESTS--

--AND THIS TIME DO THE JOB RIGHT, YOUR-SELF!

BUT--!

THAT WILL BE ALL, KELLEY!

YES, MASTER LUTHOR!

MUST STAY CALM. CLEAR YOUR HEAD. LET'S WATCH THE NEWS...

--POLICE ARE STILL LOOKING FOR THE GUNMEN WHO SHOT DAILY PLANET PHOTOGRAPHER JAMES OLSEN--

--AND JERRY WHITE SON OF THAT PAPER'S MANAGING EDITOR. BOTH MEN REMAIN IN CRITICAL CONDITION AT METROPOLIS GENERAL.

NO--

--MY GOD, NO. THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING--NOT NOW. NOT TO ME--

"WE TEND TO FORGET JUST HOW MORTAL WE ARE--"

...UNTIL SOMETHING LIKE THIS HAPPENS - TO REMIND US THAT WE ALL MUST DIE SOME DAY

BUT NOT JIMMY - NOT SO SOON

DEAR GOD, DON'T TAKE THESE BOYS FROM US. THEY HAVE THEIR WHOLE LIVES AHEAD OF THEM - IT'S NOT RIGHT... NOT RIGHT AT ALL.

JERRY - JERRY I'M HERE - MOTHER'S RIGHT HERE - EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE FINE - YOU'RE GOING TO GET BETTER -

IT JUST DOESN'T MAKE SENSE THE BULLET THAT STRUCK JIM DOWN WASN'D HIS VITAL ORGANS - THEY ALL LOOK PERFECTLY HEALTHY -

HOW COULD SOMEONE SO ENERGETIC SO VITAL, JUST... FADE AWAY?

IT IS NOT A NATURAL DEATH WHICH BEFALLS JAMES OLSEN

WHA--?!?

YOU SAY SOMETHING, KENT?

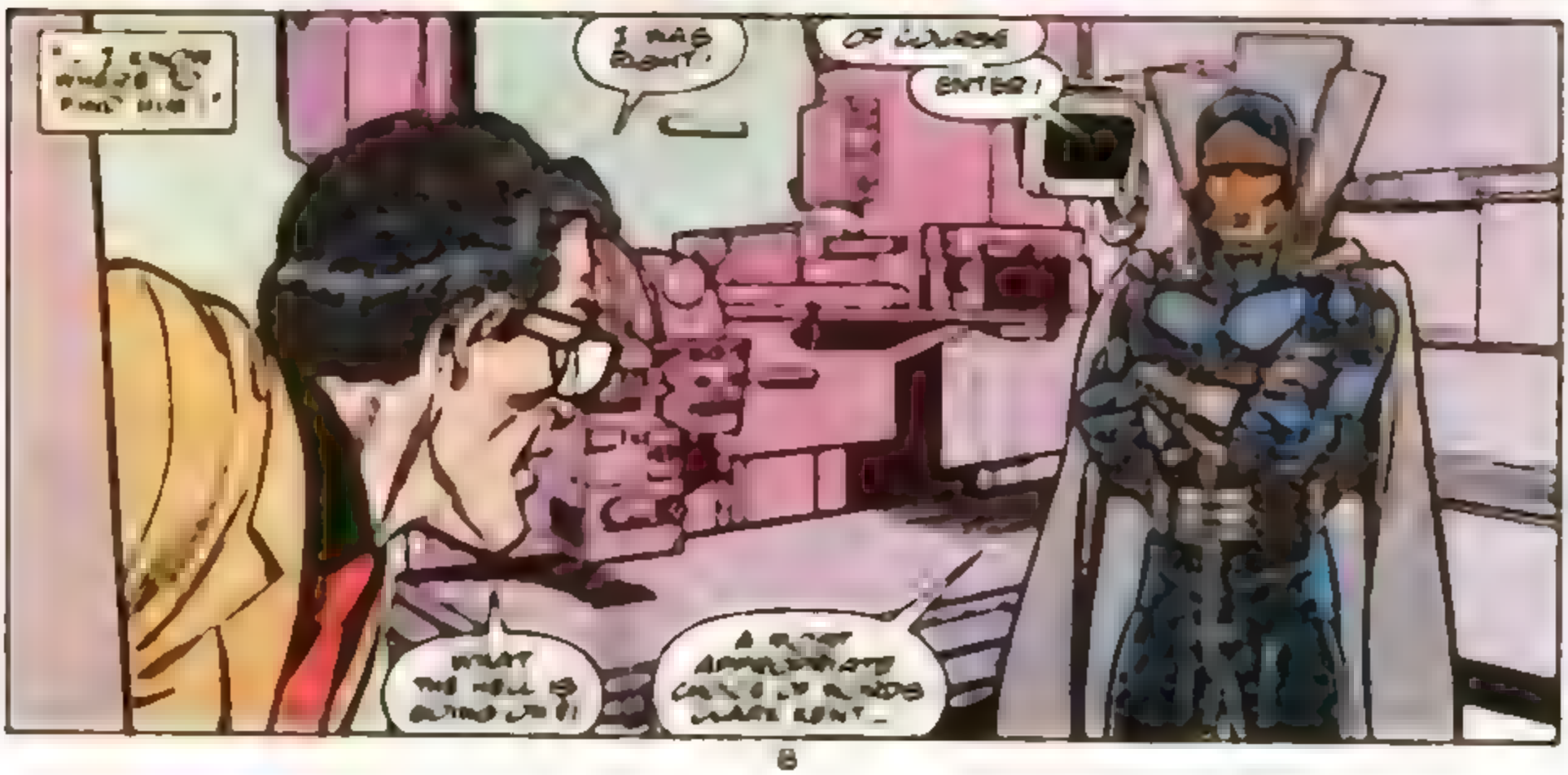
CHLOE'S WELL YOUR WORDS, CLARK KENT. YOUR FRIENDS CANNOT PERCEIVE ME!

I-IT'S NOTHING, CHIEF I JUST REMEMBERED - SOMETHING I HAD TO SEE

THERE IS MUCH TO WHICH WE MUST ATTEND

UH, SURE, PERRY... FINE... I'M FINE.
THAT'S ALL RIGHT, SON. GO AHEAD. WE'LL BE HERE.

CRAZY!


I WAS RIGHT!
ENTER!

FOR THOSE TWO YOUNG MEN ARE THE VICTIMS OF AN ENTITY OF INCALCULABLE EVIL!

UNLESS YOU ACT-- SOON-- THEY SHALL PERISH AND THEIR SOULS BE FORFEITED

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? LOOK, I WANT SOME STRAIGHT ANSWERS.

WHO ARE YOU? WHY COULDN'T ANYONE ELSE SEE OR HEAR YOU? WHAT--?!

I AM THE BLACK RACER!

ONLY THOSE MORTALS NEAR DEATH CAN SEE ME UNLESS I OTHERWISE ORDAIN.

IF I SO DESIRED I COULD REMAIN INVISIBLE TO EVEN YOUR GREAT DEMONS!

GOOD LORD! WHAT... WHAT HAVE YOU DONE--?

NO SECRETS ARE HIDDEN FROM THE BLACK RACER, SUPERMAN

NEED WELL MY WORDS - THE ENTITY WHICH HAS OVERCOME YOUR FRIENDS HAS GAINED A FOOTHOLD ON THIS MORTAL PLANE..

TO YOU, NOTHING TO YOUR EARS A SIMPLE MOLECULAR RE-ARRANGEMENT

"... IN THE HEART OF THIS VERY CITY!"

DETECTIVE BRADLEY! HOW MUCH LONGER WILL THIS INVESTIGATION TAKE?

HARD TO SAY, MS. BLAZE

BLAZE--? AREN'T THE CLUB'S OWNER?

UH-HUH

I DO HOPE YOU'LL BE CLEARING OUT SOON. I HAVE A BUSINESS TO RUN

YOU'LL HAVE TO TAKE THAT UP WITH THE INSPECTOR, MA'AM

WHAT'S YOUR HURRY? TWO YOUNG MEN WERE SHOT HERE THIS MORNING. THEY MIGHT NOT PULL THROUGH!

AH, BUT THAT MAKES IT ALL THE MORE IMPORTANT TO GET THINGS UP AND RUNNING IN TIME FOR TONIGHT'S CROWD

THE NEWS OF THE SHOOTINGS WILL EARN MY CLUB EVEN GREATER NOTORIETY!

THE CURIOUS WILL BE DRAWN TO BLAZE'S LIKE MOTHS TO A FLAME!

MARK MY WORD, THIS WILL BE OUR BIGGEST NIGHT YET... WE'LL BE TURNING THEM AWAY AT THE DOOR!

WHEW! AND I THOUGHT I'D MET SOME COLD ONES BEFORE--!

WHAT'S WORSE, SHE'S PROBABLY RIGHT!

POLICE

POL

SO THAT'S ANGELICA PLAZE. BUT IF THAT LITTLE WHORE IS HERE, SHE MUST BE FAIRLY WELL-HEELED

THAT DIAMOND IT MUST HAVE TAKEN A PAIR ARMFUL OF CASH—

—TO BUY UP OLD ST. CHAS. AND TURN IT INTO A ROCK CLUB

WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF YOUR MONEY, MS PLAZE? DRUGS, MAYBE?

THE PLAYERS HERE ARE DOING A BUSINESS

IT WILL BE A WHILE BEFORE I CAN GET MUCH DEAL-OFF-AND-MARKUP TYPES UNDER MY CONTROL

COME ON, STEPHEN

YES MA AM

I THINK THAT I'M NEED AN EYE ON YOU, MS PLAZE! I'VE PLANS OF A LOT OF MONEY PASSING THROUGH STREET ABOUT OUR CLUB—

—BUT NOT ONE WE HAD TO KNOW DOUBLY AS IT RAN INTERFERE WITH THE CITY AND STATE WHO THEY COULD DO YOUR PLANS OR DISTRICTS. BUT I DON'T BUY THAT!

• THERE'S NOT MUCH AN IT'S THAT DOESN'T ADD UP_ •

...FIRST YOU SAID THAT YOU CONTACTED ME BECAUSE I M THE ONLY ONE WHO STANDS A CHANCE OF STOPPING THIS... WHATEVER-IT-IS THAT S KILLING JIMMY AND JERRY.

NOW YOU'RE SAYING THAT NO POWER ON EARTH CAN SAVE THEM ?!

BOTH STATEMENTS ARE TRUE YOU ARE NEEDED... BUT NOT ON THIS EARTH

I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW I CAN T GET FAR OFF-PLANET WITHOUT AN OXYGEN SUPPLY... AND I DON'T LIKE BEING KEPT IN THE DARK!

MY REGRETS I AM UNACCUSTOMED TO WORKING IN THIS MANNER WITH A MORTAL BEING -- AND THERE IS LITTLE TIME TO EXPLAIN.

I MUST ASK FOR YOUR TRUST.

IF YOU WANT MY TRUST, YOU COULD TELL ME MORE ABOUT WHO YOU ARE AND WHY YOU'RE DOING THIS! AND WHERE YOU'RE TAKING ME!

I AM A MESSENGER, SUPERMAN. WHEN THERE IS AN IMBALANCE OF FORCES IN THE COSMOS, IT IS MY LOT TO DELIVER THE CORRECTIVE FACTOR.

YOU ARE THAT FACTOR... AND WE GO TO SAVE YOUR FRIENDS.

READ THE DAILY PLANET... TRUTH, JUSTICE AND COMI

HEY, THAT'S THE OLD CHURCH WHERE THE BOYS WERE SHOT.

IT IS FAR MORE THAN THAT!

THIS ONCE HALLOWED HALL HAS BECOME A FOCUS OF INFERNAL FORCES. BUT IT SHALL BE THE NEXUS BY WHICH WE CONTINUE OUR JOURNEY!

YOU... YOU'VE CREATED A BOOM TUBE!

INDEED. BUT THIS EARTH-BOUND TERMINUS WILL SOON FADE! IF YOU WOULD SAVE YOUR FRIENDS, WE MUST NOT TARRY!

I'VE COME THIS FAR...

I'M NOT TURNING BACK NOW!

RACER, I'VE ENCOUNTERED THESE DIMENSIONAL BRIDGES BEFORE. BUT ALWAYS IN CONNECTION WITH A RACE OF SUPER-BEINGS FROM A WORLD CALLED NEW GENESIS

ARE YOU--?

I AM LINKED TO THE GUARDIAN, WHICH IS THE WELLSPRING OF THE NEW BLOOD EMPIRE--

--BUT I AM EVER AWARE FROM THEM I AM ONE OF MANY AND WE ARE ALL THE BLACK RACE

MISTER, YOU'RE A BIGGER RIDDLE THAN THE *PHANTOM STRANGER*, AND THAT'S SAYING SOMETHING!

I TAKE IT THAT THIS TUBE LEADS TO THE ENTITY WHO'S ENDANGERED THE BOYS?

YOU NEED REST, TOO.

A SWALLOWING, DARKNESS FILLED WITH

THE DARKNESS AT THE TUNNEL'S END... I CAN'T SEE INTO IT AT ALL.

THAT IS THE DARKNESS OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT. IT IS OUR ONLY AVENUE OF ENTRY

STEEL TO THE RESCUE, SUPERMAN--

...ACROSS THE HORRORS THAT AWAIT SHALL TEST EVEN YOUR RESOLVE.

IT'S BEEN ... A LONG TIME SINCE I'VE FELT THIS COLD! HOW ARE WE SUPPOSED TO FIND OUR WAY THROUGH THIS--?

THE DARKNESS WITHIN SHALL LEAD YOU ON.

Hm!

RACER? WHERE ARE YOU?

I AM ALLOWED NO FURTHER THE FATE OF YOUR FRIENDS IS IN YOUR HANDS ALONE.

BUT WHAT DO I DO?

IF YOU SUCCEED, A WAY WILL OPEN. IF YOU DO NOT--IT WILL NOT MATTER!

AND HOW DO I GET BACK?

YOU MUST ENCORE SUPERMAN! I CAN SAY NO MORE THE SOURCE CALLS TO ME AND I MUST ANSWER

WHAT HAVE YOU GOT ME INTO?!

THE FINAL CONFRONTATION BEYOND THERE WILL BE SOME PAIN.

AARRGHH!

RACER! COME BACK HERE!

N-N-NOT EVEN DARKSEID PUT ME THROUGH THIS KIND OF--

HELP ME PLEASE!! SOMEBODY— ANYBODY— HELP ME!

GRRARRGH

RRURGHS

I'M GOING TO HAVE A SERIOUS FIGHT ON MY HANDS HERE, UNLESS I CAN GET [illegible]

* THE LATE, GREAT APE WHO BREATHED HIS LAST IN SUPERMAN ANNUAL #1.

--GIVE FIDO A FLYING LEGGON!

KER-

AK!

WHAT [illegible]

I ONLY WANTED TO KNOCK HIM OUT! HOW...?

[illegible] THOSE [illegible] I HAD [illegible]

I [illegible]

EASY, E-A-S-Y! IT'S OKAY! HE... HE CAN'T HURT YOU NOW. YOU'RE GOING TO BE ALL RIGHT. I'LL HELP [illegible]

WHAT? THIS IS A NETHERWORLD OF UNENDING TORMENT, WHERE SOULS ARE DRAWN HERE -- AGAINST THEIR WILL -- DENIED THEIR DEITY BY FIRE ALL ETERNITY!

HOW COULD YOU NOT KNOW..? WAIT -- YOU -- YOU HAVE POWER. HOW CAN THIS BE? BLAZE ALLOWS ONLY HER CREATURES TO WIELD POWER HERE. AND YOU ARE NOT ONE OF THEM.

NO, I'M SUPERMAN. I WAS BROUGHT HERE THROUGH... UNUSUAL MEANS. AND THE ONLY "BLAZE" I'M AWARE OF IS A NIGHTCLUB OWNER! WHO--?

BLAZE IS THE ULTIMATE TEMPTRESS... THE ETERNAL DECEIVER! IT IS BECAUSE OF HER TRICKERY THAT I AM HERE!

YOU MUST BELIEVE ME! I DO NOTHING WRONG! CAN YOUR POWER FREE ME FROM THIS INFERNAL PIT?

I'M NOT SURE. BUT I'M CERTAINLY TRY. I BELIEVE YOUR "BLAZE" IS THE ONE I'VE COME TO FIND. TWO FRIENDS OF MINE ARE DYING, AND--!

TWO? YOUNG MEN?

YES! WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THEM?

THEY ARE ALREADY IN BLAZE'S POWER.

--FORGET THEM. THEY ARE DOOMED. WE MUST ESCAPE WHILE WE CAN!

NO! NOT UNTIL I'VE BROKEN BLAZE'S HOLD ON MY FRIENDS -- AND MY CITY!

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND... BLAZE IS SUPREME HERE! THE LONGER YOU REMAIN THE GREATER HER HOLD OVER YOU WILL BE!

I'LL RISK THAT -- SHOW ME WHERE TO FIND HER. I'LL PROTECT YOU

V-VERY WELL... THIS WAY. BUT MOVE AS SILENTLY AS YOU CAN -- BLAZE'S EARS ARE EVERYWHERE!

DON'T WORRY... I'LL BE RIGHT ALONGSIDE YOU.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE CONNECTION IS BETWEEN THE TWO BLAZES, BUT UNTIL I DO I'D BETTER KEEP MY EYES OPEN IN A PLACE SUCH AS THIS--

THERE -- THERE ARE THE NEW-COMERS! ARE THEY OUR FRIENDS?

MY SON! YES!

BUT... I LEFT THEM... BACK ON EARTH HOW--?

YOU LEFT THEIR BODIES -- THESE ARE THEIR SOULS!

AND THEY ARE MINE -- AS ARE YOU, SUPERMAN

HUUAAHH

WHA--?

I WARNED YOU--

FWOOSH

SH

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

TO BE CONTINUED IN SUPERMAN #47

"LIVES IN THE BALANCE!"

PART TWO OF THREE

LIVES IN THE BALANCE

A MESSENGER OF DEATH, THE BLACK RACER, HAS TRANSPORTED SUPERMAN TO THE NETHER-DOMAIN OF A DEMON KNOWN ONLY AS BLAZE...

HE'S COME TO RECLAIM FROM HER THE SPIRITUAL SOULS OF HIS FRIENDS JIMMY OLSEN AND JERRY WHITE...

... WHILE THEIR PHYSICAL FORMS LIE NEAR DEATH IN A METROPOLIS HOSPITAL.*

*see issue #656 of Action Comics, still on sale.

SUPERMAN

Created by JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER

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JOHN COSTANZA-letterer
JON PETERSON-assoc. editor
MIKE CARLIN-editor

BLAZE!!

YOU HAVEN'T BEATEN ME *YET!* YOU PLAYED YOUR HAND TOO SOON...

...I DON'T FALL FOR THE SAME TRICK *TWICE!*

I'M GOING TO STOP YOU AND *SAVE* THOSE BOYS--EVEN IF IT COSTS ME MY *LIFE!*

SUCH UNRESTRAINED CONFIDENCE!

YOU ARE IN *MY* DOMAIN NOW, SUPERMAN...

...THEIR *SOULS* BELONG TO *ME!*

I'LL *NOT* RELINQUISH THEM, THOUGH I *WOULD* GLADLY WELCOME *YOURS!*

AS YOU SHALL LEARN, *MY* POWER IS *ABSOLUTE* DOWN HERE--AND I CONTROL *MANY...*

...SUCH AS *THESE* FOOLS, WHO MUST SACRIFICE THEMSELVES *AGAIN* AND *AGAIN* AT MY BIDDING!

POOR DEVILS--!

IS *THIS* THE FATE JIMMY AND JERRY HAVE IN STORE FOR THEM?

UNTHINKING SLAVES TO A *MISTRESS OF HELL?* I WON'T LET THAT HAPPEN!

I CAN'T CONDEMN THEM TO THIS!

THEIR NUMBERS ARE DWINDLING...

...AND NONE TOO SOON. BLAZE'S REALM IS SUPER-NATURAL.

I'VE ALWAYS HAD A WEAKNESS WHERE MAGIC IS CONCERNED-- I'M TIRING MUCH TOO QUICKLY.

CAN'T TAKE THE HEAT, MAN OF STEEL?

I THINK YOU'VE MET ENOUGH OF MY HORDE--FOR NOW.

DON'T DO ME ANY FAVORS, LADY!

OH, IT'S NO FAVOR, I JUST WANTED TO... "CHANGE HORSES," IF YOU WILL.

WE MEET AGAIN, MY FRIEND...

TAMMY BROWN? I'M JOSE DELGADO. I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU.

YOU'RE JERRY WHITE'S FRIEND -- BUT *HOW* DID YOU FIND ME?

THIS ISN'T *MY* APARTMENT. MY COUSIN WILL WALKER LIVES HERE.

I FOLLOWED YOU FROM THE HOSPITAL.

WELL, ISN'T *THAT* NICE!

LOOK, I *DON'T* MAKE A HABIT OF SKULKING BEHIND YOUNG WOMEN!

JERRY WAS--*IS* MY FRIEND, AND I'M AFTER THE CREEPS WHO SHOT HIM AND JIMMY OLSEN!

ISN'T THAT A POLICE MATTER?

I MEAN, WHAT IS IT WITH YOU MACHO TYPES?

YOU GOING TO THAT "*BLAZE*" CLUB TO BUST SOME HEADS?

HEY, I'M SORRY TO SNAP LIKE THAT. IT'S JUST...

I LIKE HIM A LOT, BUT ONCE HE STARTED WORKING AT THAT NIGHTCLUB, HE CHANGED.

IT WAS AS IF ALL HIS WORST CHARAC-TERISTICS WERE *AMPLIFIED.*

WAS HE INVOLVED IN DRUGS?

BLAZE'S DOES HAVE THAT REPUTATION, I'M AFRAID.

LOOK, JOSE, I'VE GOT TO TAKE CARE OF WILL, NOW, SO...

FOLLOW ME, JOSE DELGADO...

WHAT'D YOU SAY?
I *SAID* I HAVE TO CARE FOR WILL.
ONLY *YOU* CAN HEAR MY VOICE, JOSE DELGADO.
MY ESSENCE RESIDES WITHIN THIS MAN, WILL WALKER.
I AM CALLED THE BLACK RACER.
I HAVE NEED OF GANG-BUSTER.
SHE CAN'T SEE *ANY* OF THIS?
"NO"
WHO'RE YOU TALKING TO?
FINE! DON'T SAY GOODBYE!
ALL THE KNOWLEDGE YOU SEEK IS IN THIS PLACE.
HEY! MY COSTUME! AND WHAT HAPPENED TO TAMMY?
LISTEN AND *LEARN.*
YOU ARE THE BALANCE -- YOU MUST CONFRONT THE WOMAN BLAZE IN HER EARTHLY DOMAIN.
EARTHLY DOMAIN? WHAT'S GOING *ON?*
HE'S GONE! AND WHERE THE HECK AM I?
EH?
JERRY WHITE
THEY'RE TALKING ABOUT THE SHOOTING.
THIS IS BAD, *REAL* BAD...

YOU "TRIGGER TWINS" SHOT A *REPORTER*-- AND IF *THAT* WASN'T BAD ENOUGH...

...YOU SHOT THE *SON* OF THE DAILY PLANET'S MANAGING EDITOR.

IT WAS A SIMPLE EXCHANGE--DONE IT PLENTY OF TIMES!

THE KID GIVES US THE CASH, AND WE GIVE HIM THE MERCHANDISE!

ONLY *THIS* TIME, HE HANDS US A BAG FULL OF *COCKROACHES!*

THAT AIN'T FUNNY, SKAGG. AND IT AIN'T GOOD BUSINESS!

IDIOT! THE KID WAS JUST A *RUNNER!* IT'S THE CLUB OWNER...

...ANGELICA BLAZE! *SHE'S* BEHIND THIS, AND YOU TWO ARE GONNA PAY HER A VISIT!

TAKE THE TRUCK-- AND A COUPLE OF CANS OF GASOLINE.

THAT WOMAN AND HER CLUB ARE GOING TO LIVE UP TO THEIR BILLING... IF YOU CATCH MY DRIFT.

SHE'LL FIND OUT WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU CROSS *INTERGANG!*

THEY'RE GOING TO TORCH THE CLUB... AND TOUGH FOR ANYONE UNLUCKY ENOUGH TO BE IN IT AT THE TIME!

GUESS THAT RACER KNEW HIS STUFF BRINGING ME HERE.

HAVE TO TAG ALONG...EVEN IF THIS IS A SET-UP-- JUST IN CASE...

YOU KNOW, DAYS LIKE THESE--

--I REALLY LOVE THIS JOB!

SKAGG WANTS A BIG SHOW, SO MANNHEIM WILL NOTICE HIM...

HE'LL NOTICE THIS!

SKREEEECH

SORRY, MR. LUTHOR.

CRUMB'S TACO CHIPS

BOSS IS SURE DEEP IN THOUGHT. WHO ARE WE VISITING AT METROPOLIS GENERAL THAT COULD PUT HIM IN THIS MOOD?

FIRST DOCTOR KELLY GIVES ME BAD NEWS, AND NOW *THIS*.

ALL BECAUSE OF ALICE -- *SPENCER* IT WAS IN THOSE DAYS...

THERE HAVE BEEN *MANY* WOMEN FOR ME, BUT ALICE STANDS OUT AMONG THEM. WHAT WAS IT THAT BROUGHT US TOGETHER?

"I OWNED THE DAILY PLANET THEN, AND ALICE WAS PERRY'S GIRL.

"WHILE WHITE SPENT TWO YEARS REPORTING FROM SOUTHEAST ASIA, I SET OUT TO CONQUER ALICE SPENCER.

"HE RETURNED TO METROPOLIS AND HIS SWEETHEART. BUT I KNEW THAT HE KNEW ABOUT US.

"IT IS SAID THAT REVENGE IS A DISH BEST SERVED COLD..

SOCIETY PAGE

PERRY WHITE MARRIES FAMED DAILY PLANET REPORTER WEDS ALICE SPENCER

"SHORTLY AFTER THEIR 'SHOTGUN WEDDING', A SON WAS BORN...

"I'D LOST TRACK OF THE BOY, UNTIL HE FELL INTO MY LAP THROUGH ONE OF MY STREET-GANG PROGRAMS...

PROJECT SYNAPSE:

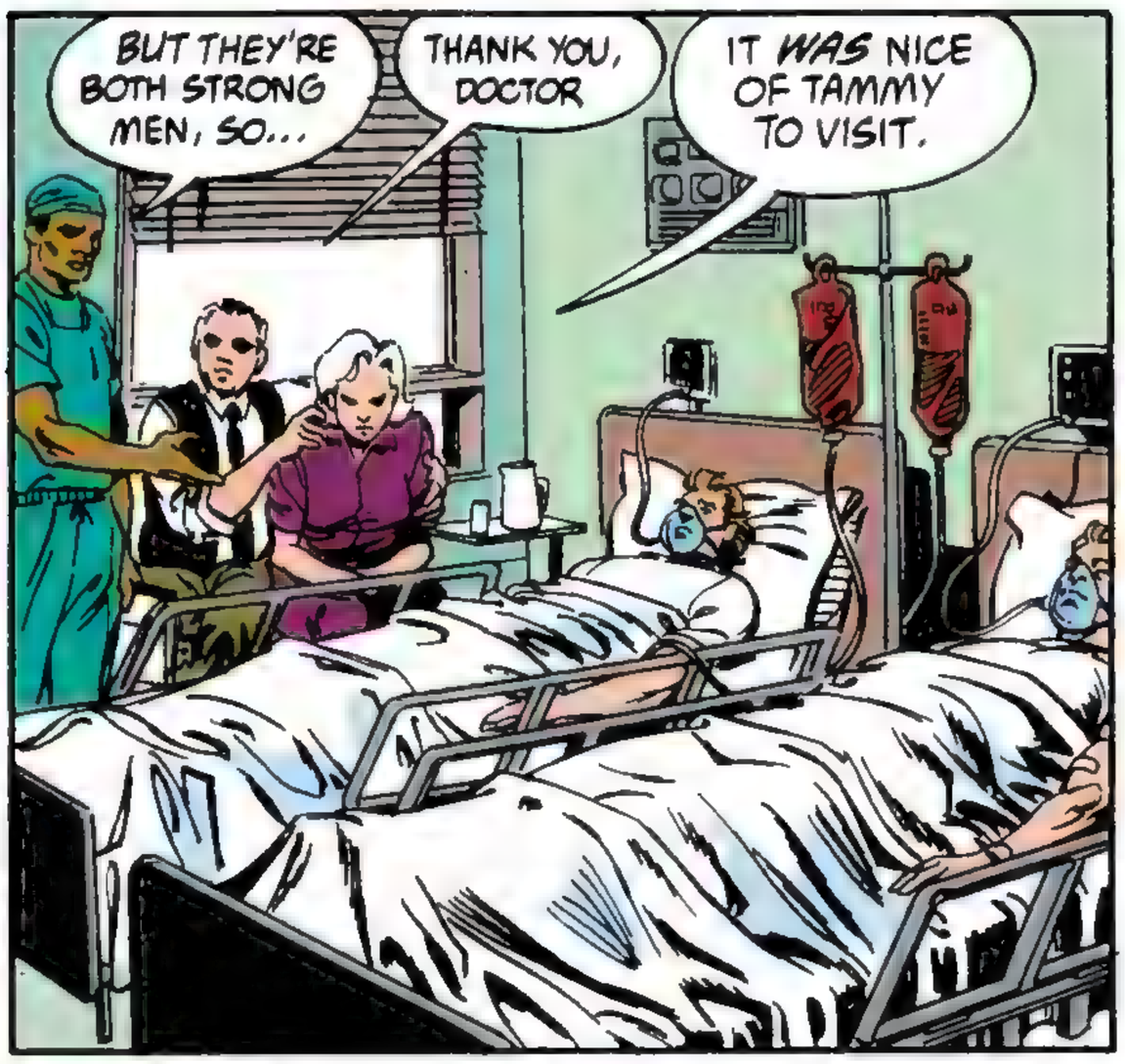
NAME: PERRY WHITE JR AKA 'JERRY'
AGE: 18
HT: 5'10"
WT: 190 lbs
HAIR: BROWN
EYES: BROWN

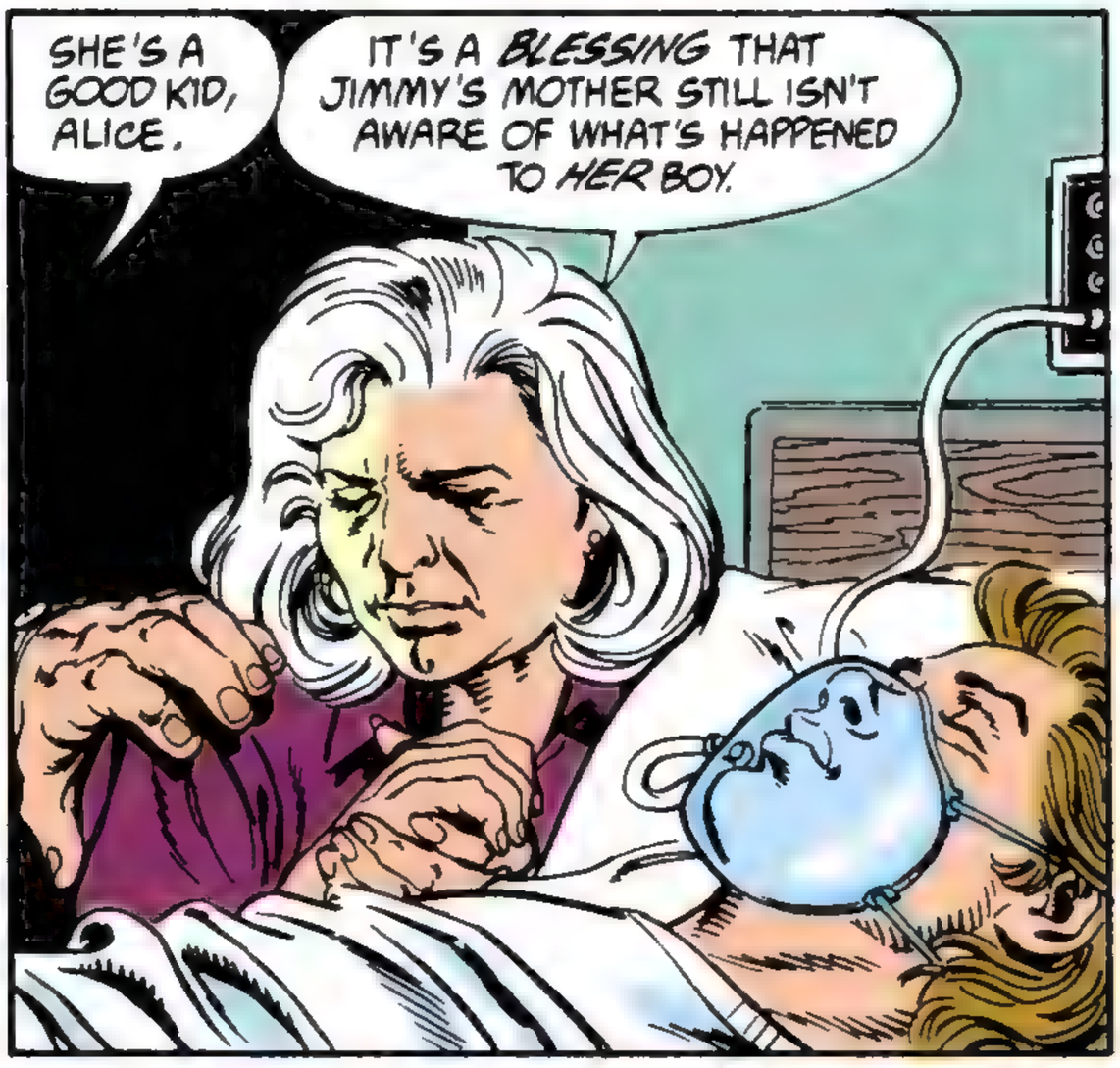
"GENETIC TESTS CONFIRMED WHAT I HADN'T PONDERED IN YEARS..."

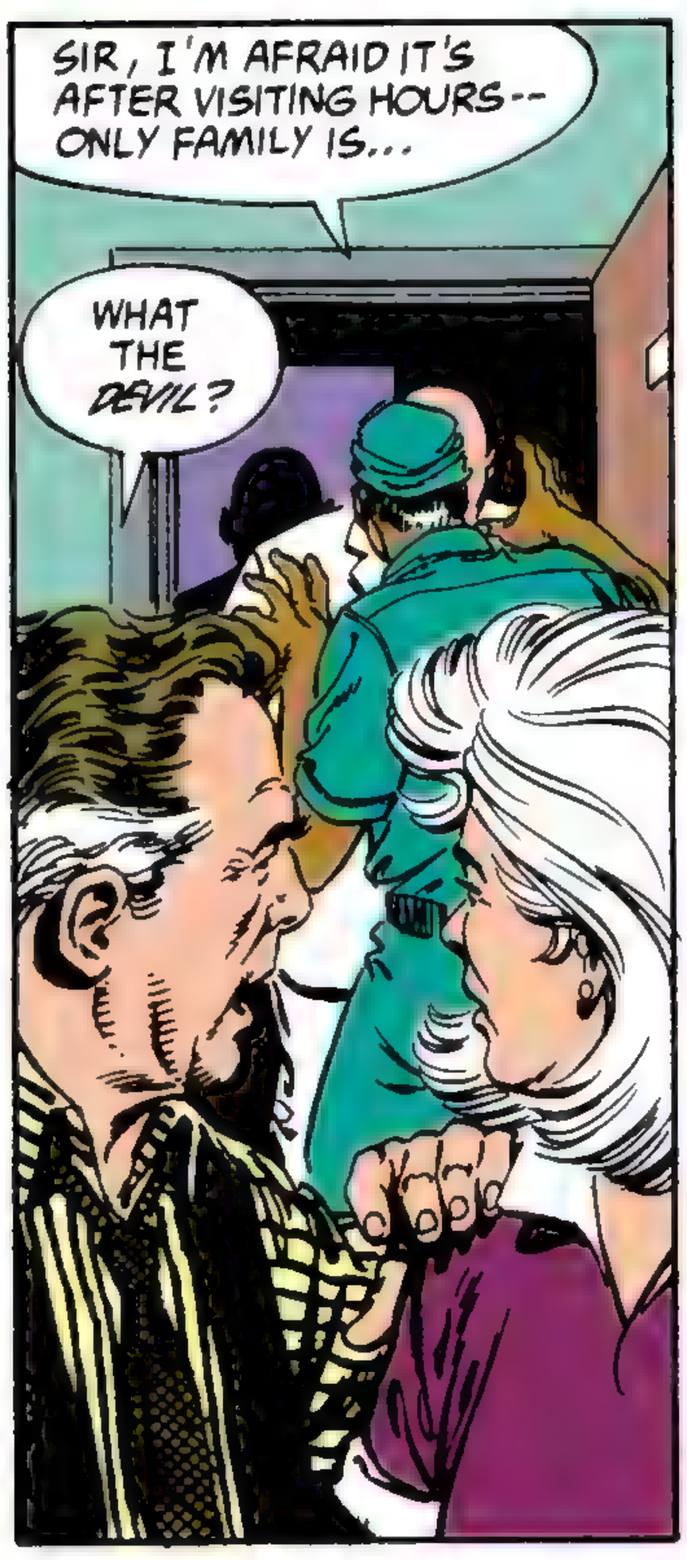
AND NOW MY SON IS DYING.

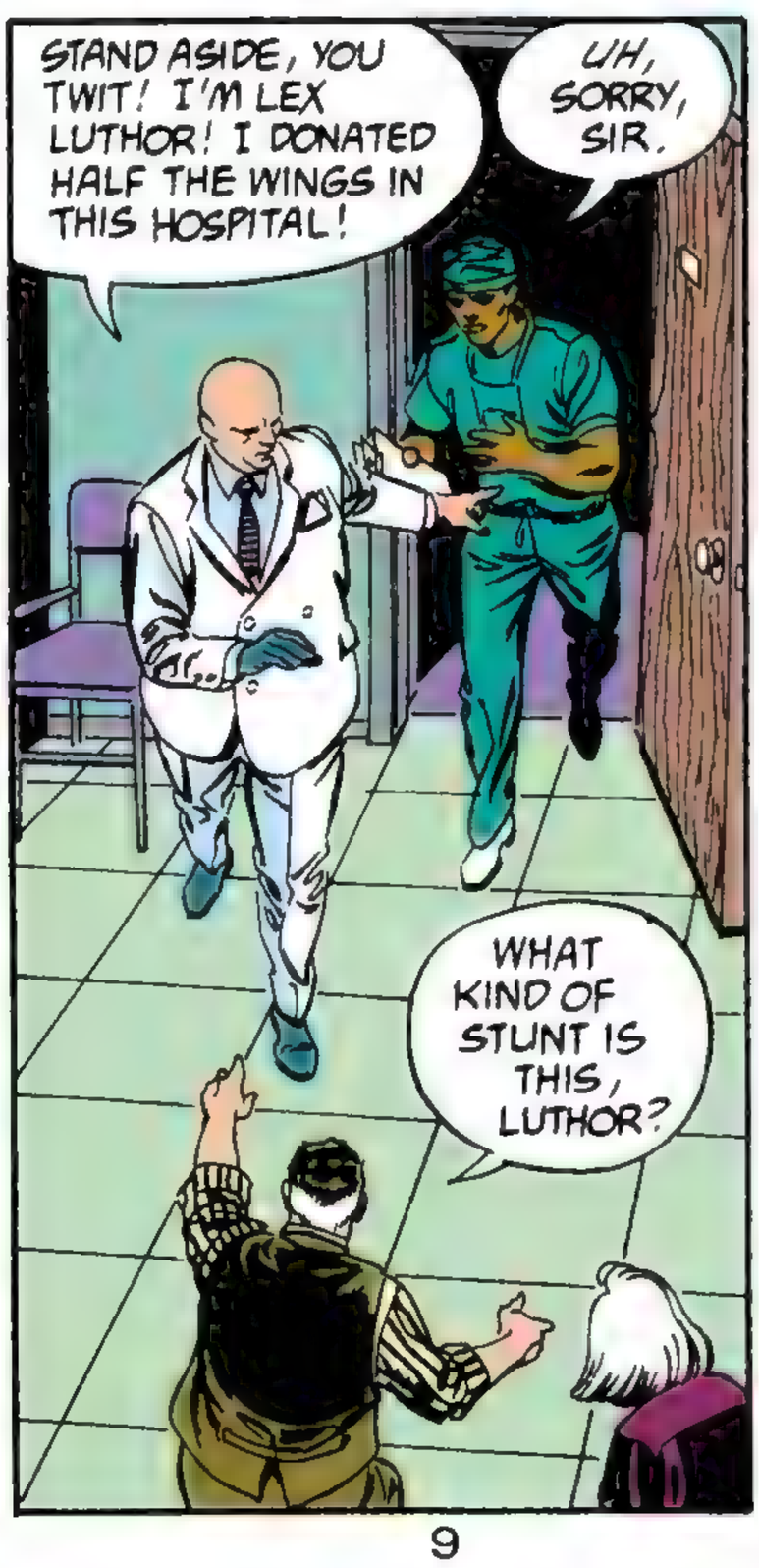
BUS

"JAMES OLSEN AND JERRY WHITE ARE RESTING. WE'VE REPAIRED THE DAMAGE FROM THE GUNSHOT WOUNDS, BUT IT WILL TAKE TIME."
METROGENERAL


BUT THEY'RE BOTH STRONG MEN, SO...
THANK YOU, DOCTOR
IT *WAS* NICE OF TAMMY TO VISIT.


SHE'S A GOOD KID, ALICE.
IT'S A *BLESSING* THAT JIMMY'S MOTHER STILL ISN'T AWARE OF WHAT'S HAPPENED TO *HER* BOY.


SIR, I'M AFRAID IT'S AFTER VISITING HOURS-- ONLY FAMILY IS...
WHAT THE *DEVIL?*


STAND ASIDE, YOU TWIT! I'M LEX LUTHOR! I DONATED HALF THE WINGS IN THIS HOSPITAL!
UH, SORRY, SIR.
WHAT KIND OF STUNT IS THIS, LUTHOR?

I'M HERE BECAUSE OF JERRY!
AND WHAT IS THAT TO *YOU?*
IF YOU TRULY DON'T KNOW, I SUGGEST YOU ASK YOUR *WIFE.*

WHAT'S *THAT* SUPPOSED TO MEAN?

I'VE COME TO SEE MY SON!

CALM DOWN--THIS IS A *HOSPITAL.*

LEX LUTHOR--YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY *KNOW* THAT FOR SURE!

SO. IT'S FINALLY BEEN SAID--OUT IN THE OPEN...

MY DOCTORS HAD OCCASION TO EXAMINE THE BOY, A WHILE BACK WHEN HE WAS RUNNING IN A STREET GANG...

THERE IS *NO* DOUBT. HE IS MY PROGENY.

ALL THESE YEARS -- I WONDERED, BUT I COULD NEVER BEAR TO ASK...

WHY IN GOD'S NAME ARE YOU DOING *THIS* NOW?

GET OUT OF HERE!

SLAP

MY *ARM!*

LEX...

HOW-*DARE*-YOU-SLAP-ME!

YOU KEEP YOUR FILTHY HANDS OFF MY WIFE!

;WO-OOF!;

NURSE! GET MR. LUTHOR SOME FRESH AIR!

ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, SIR?

ALICE AND I RAISED THAT BOY. HE'S STILL OUR SON!

PERRY, I NEVER MEANT--

DEAR GOD IN HEAVEN! GET THE DOCTORS!

HE'S BLEEDING AGAIN--BUT THESE ARE NEW WOUNDS!

BLAZE

"THIS BOY IS SO RECEPTIVE..."

...AND I DO LIKE TO MARK MY POSSESSIONS!

AS SOON AS THE OTHER ONE GIVES IN TO ME, I SHALL MARK HIM AS WELL.

BLAZE

PLEASE DON'T FEEL THAT I'M IGNORING YOU, SUPERMAN. I MERELY WISHED YOU TO REACQUAINT YOURSELF WITH SKYHOOK!

SKYHOOK? BUT YOU'RE...

DEAD?

YES, BUT WE DON'T DEAL IN DEATH DOWN HERE--WE DEAL IN ETERNAL SOULS!

SKYHOOK'S WAS MINE FROM THE DAY I ANSWERED HIS DARK CALL OVER A CENTURY AGO!

SKYHOOK GAVE ME *ACCESS* TO THESE TWO, THROUGH THE DECONSECRATED CHURCH THAT HE USED FOR HIS CHILD-CRIMES...

THE SAME BUILDING THAT I TRANSFORMED INTO MY CLUB!

THE CLUB "*BLAZE'S*" BELONGS TO *YOU*?

YOU TOOK MY "*BABIES*" FROM ME, SUPERMAN...

-:UGHNN!:- HE'S REOPENED A GASH HE GAVE ME *LAST* TIME WE FOUGHT! *

WAK!

I *TAINTED* YOU BEFORE...

* IN SUPERMAN #34

MY CORRUPTION FLOWS THROUGH YOU NOW...

...CAN YOU FEEL IT COURSING THROUGH YOUR VEINS?

YOU ARE A PART OF *ME*, SUPERMAN!

THIS CUT'S NOT BLEEDING, BUT I FEEL *SO* DIZZY-- WHAT DID HE *DO* TO ME?

YOU SHALL BE REMADE TO *MY* LIKING!

AAHHHHH

WHY NOT RELAX AND *ENJOY* IT, MAN OF STEEL?

NO-GOT TO--FIGHT-IT!

I *DO* LOVE TO SEE A STRONG SPIRIT *CRUSHED!*

SIMPLY EXQUISITE!

EVERYTHING'S GOING BY IN SLOW MOTION--*HAS* TO BE A DREAM...

THIS IS NO DREAM, BOY--THIS IS THE POWER OF *EVIL!*

HAVING CORRUPTED MANKIND'S GREAT PROTECTOR--

"-- CAN A STATE OF HELL ON EARTH BE FAR OFF?"

BLAZE

CRUMB'S TACO CHIPS THEY'RE DARN GOOD

WE WERE SENT HERE BY AN UNHAPPY SUPPLIER TO SEE ANGELICA BLAZE!

SHE-SHE'S NOT HERE! YOU'RE HURTING ME!

HEY! ONE-FIFTY VODKA! WE WON'T NEED THE GASOLINE FROM THE TRUCK TO SET THIS BLAZE!

BLOT VODKA

TELL YOUR BOSS THIS IS WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU CROSS INTERGANG...

YEAH, IF YOU SURVIVE!

WHAT ARE YOU...?

PLAYING WITH FIRE!

NO!

THOSE THUGS NEVER CAME BACK FOR THE GAS!

TIME TO BUST SOME -- HEY! THE DOORS ARE JAMMED!

WHO LOCKED THE DOORS?

THEY WON'T BUDGE!

YOU *IDIOT!* WHY DIDN'T YOU CHECK *BEFORE* YOU *STARTED* THE *FIRE?*

I THOUGHT THIS WAS AN *ACT!!*

EVERYTHING LOOKS OKAY IN THERE, BUT I DON'T LIKE BEING LOCKED OUT!

HMMM--FAINT SMELL OF SMOKE. NOT UNUSUAL FOR A BAR...

...BUT CONSIDERING MY "*FIRE-BUG*" FRIENDS, PROBABLY NOT A GOOD SIGN!

BLAZE'S

DUMB, JOSE! THESE STAINED GLASS DEALS WEREN'T BUILT TO OPEN! THAT LEAVES ME NOWHERE TO GO BUT...

BLAZE'S

...UP. THAT BELFRY MUST HAVE A STAIRCASE THAT LEADS DOWN INTO THE CHURCH!

HERE'S WHERE I TEST MY BATMAN-INSPIRED GRAPPLING HOOK!

THIS IS *MURDER* ON THE SHOULDERS!

OLD BATS MAKES IT LOOK EASY!

THE BIG TRICK IS NOT TO LOOK DOWN!

FINALLY! VOILÀ! A TRAPDOOR.

EVEN THROUGH MY GLOVES, THIS HANDLE FEELS *HOT.*

HERE WE--*WHOA!*

WHO'S THAT *LAUGHING?*

HA HA HA HA

HA

SLAM

YOU'RE LOSING YOUR *HOLD,* SKYHOOK.

FIGHT IT

NO

FIGHT IT

NO

FIGHT IT

NO

FIGHT IT

NO

FIGHT IT

CRASH

FIGHT!

NO.

HE'S *BROKEN THROUGH...*

"... MY EARTHLY DOMAIN HAS BEEN BREACHED!"

THAT DOOR-- GAVE WAY SO SUDDENLY...

NO FLAMES THIS TIME... THOUGH THERE'S PLENTY OF SMOKE!

YOU'VE *FAILED* ME, SKYHOOK! BACK TO THE LAVA PITS FOR YOU *BOTH!*

SKAASH!

N-NO!

ANOTHER CHANCE...

DOUBTLESS THERE *WILL* BE OTHER CHANCES FOR YOU. YOU'RE MINE FOR ETERNITY...

BUT NOW I MUST TEND TO MY *OTHER* BUSINESS...

...*RECRUITMENT*, FROM THE RANKS OF THE *LIVING*! TA TA!

ARE WE ALL ALREADY DEAD? I REMEMBER THAT JERRY AND I WERE SHOT, BUT HOW DID SUPERMAN GET HERE?

CAN BLAZE BE POWERFUL ENOUGH TO *KILL* SUPERMAN?

GOOD GOD! THIS IS A SERIOUS FIRE!

GET SOME MORE MUSCLE OVER HERE AND USE THIS BEAM AS A BATTERING RAM ON THE FRONT DOOR!

ALL THE DOORS ARE JAMMED!

. I'LL GIVE IT A SHOT!

JUST LIFT, OKAY?

YOU OTHERS! GRAB A TABLE TO BLOCK THE FLAMES, AND HELP CLEAR A PATH!

AWW, GEEZ. THERE'S A *BODY* UNDER HERE!

WELL! SCRATCH ONE INTERGANG THUG!

HE WAS TRAMPLED IN A RUSH FOR THE FRONT DOOR! EVERYONE PANICKED!

THIS THE ONE WHO STARTED THE FIRE?

HIM AND ANOTHER GUY--

THAT'S IT, JERKS! *RAM* THAT DOOR DOWN...

WHAM!

...AND WHEN IT'S OPEN, I'M THE FIRST ONE OUTTA HERE!!

YOUR FRIEND GOT WHAT HE DESERVED...

WAP!

...SO JUST SHUT UP AND GET OUT OF MY FACE!

BE GLAD THAT I DON'T TIE YOU TO ONE OF THOSE BEAMS AND LEAVE YOU THERE TO BURN...

...FOR WHAT YOU AND YOUR DECEASED PAL DID TO A COUPLE OF KIDS NAMED JERRY WHITE AND JIMMY OLSEN!

YOU DIDN'T SHOW THEM ANY MERCY WHEN YOU GUNNED THEM DOWN!

WE DID IT! DOOR'S OPEN!

WAIT! DON'T RUSH!
ME FIRST!
KEEP MOVING!
OUT OF MY WAY!
GET OFF OF ME!
NO CONCERN FOR THEIR FELLOW MAN-- I LOVE IT!
YOU...
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, WORM?
I'M ANGELICA BLAZE!
YOU--YOU'RE THE REASON THIS IS HAPPENING!
ONLY ONE OF US IS GOING TO WALK AWAY FROM THIS, LADY...
UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU, THAT IS SO.
WHO IN HELL IS THAT?
MEN HAVE CALLED ME THE BLACK RACER...
WHAT KIND OF JOKE NAME IS THAT?
IF YOU CAN SEE THE RACER, THEN YOUR FATE IS ALREADY SEALED!
IN THIS CASE... YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH.

SEE...HE'S HERE FOR YOU, WORM! DO YOUR DUTY, RACER.

HERE, LET ME HELP...

DEAR GOD!

GANGBUSTER--LEAVE HIM BE. HE CANNOT BE SAVED.

SHE JUST BURNED HIM TO *DEATH!*

HE AND HIS COMRADE WERE LOST CAUSES THE MOMENT THEY SHOT YOUR FRIENDS.

SEND HIM ON HIS WAY-- TO MY DOMAIN!

IT IS DONE, SHE-DEVIL.

THE TWO BOYS' FATES ARE *NOT* SIMILARLY ETCHED IN STONE, THOUGH...

"...SET THEM FREE."

BLAZE MUST HAVE ABANDONED SKYHOOK IN THE END...

HE DIDN'T PULL THROUGH.

JIM! I KNOW WE HAVEN'T SEEN EYE TO EYE LATELY...

I KNOW, BUT I'VE BEEN A *BUTTHEAD*, TOO.

GOT TO GET YOU TWO OUT OF HERE!

I'M ALL FOR THAT!

BLAT

HO-LEY-- JERRY'S BURNING UP!

MISS ME?

YOU DIDN'T THINK I'D LEAVE YOU UN-SUPERVISED FOR LONG, DID YOU?

BLAZE!!

PUNISH THEM, JERRY!

GET BEHIND ME, JIM!

AHHH

THE DOORWAY TO HELL IS AN *ENTRANCE*, NOT AN *EXIT*.

GET USED TO THAT...

YOU'RE GOING TO BE HERE FOR AN *ETERNITY*!

TO BE CONTINUED in

THE ADVENTURES OF SUPERMAN #470

THEN COME ON BACK IN THIRTY DAYS FOR "*THE SINBAD CONTRACT*"

SUPERMAN

"...LIKE a WOMAN SCORNED!"

PART THREE OF THREE

YOU ARE IN THE BLISTERING DOMAIN OF *BLAZE* NOW, *SUPERMAN*!

PREPARE TO FEEL HER BLACK *EMBRACE*!

FORGET IT, BLAZE! NOT ONLY WILL YOU NEVER HAVE MY SOUL--

--BUT I'M TAKING *JERRY'S* BACK!

DAN JURGENS: WORDS AND PICTURES * ART THIBERT: FINISHED ART * ALBERT DE GUZMAN: LETTERING
GLENN WHITMORE: COLORIST * JONATHAN PETERSON: ASSOCIATE EDITOR * MIKE CARLIN: EDITOR
JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER: SUPERMAN CREATORS

SUCH MACHISMO! SUCH FIERY *BRAVADO!*

IT'S BEEN CENTURIES SINCE I'VE EXPERIENCED THE REFRESHING CHALLENGE OF ACTUAL *RESISTANCE!*

BUT, JUST AS I CONTROL YOUR WEAKENED COMRADE--

--SOON SHALL BLAZE SUBJUGATE YOU ALL!

2

OKAY... GARGANTUAN MANIFESTATIONS OF LIVING ROCK *ARE* VERY IMPRESSIVE...

GET BEHIND ME, JIMMY!

YES, SIR!

...BUT GETTING JERRY AND JIMMY PAST BIG UGLY HERE, AND BACK TO REALITY IS GOING TO BE LIKE A STROLL IN THE--

WHOA--!

3

PAAK

WUKK!

:WHUFF!:

YEOWW!

OH, COME NOW! DO YOU *TRULY* BELIEVE YOU CAN *LEAVE* HERE?

GEE, SUPERMAN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE STRONG ENOUGH TO STAND UP TO A WALKING BUNCH OF ROCKS!

THAT MAKES TWO OF US, JIMMY!

EITHER ROCKY THERE IS PRETTY POWERFUL--

--OR THE MAGIC USED TO CREATE THIS CREATURE IS *WEAKENING* MY EFFECTIVENESS!!

L--LET 'EM BE! TAKE *ME*! YOU *PROMISED*!

SURELY YOU CAN'T BE *SERIOUS*, BOY...

...COMPARED TO YOU, *SUPERMAN* IS AN ABSOLUTE *TROPHY*!

THE PROSPECT OF POSSESSING A SOUL AS POWERFUL AS HIS IS SIMPLY INTOXICATING!

AND I *WILL* POSSESS IT, SOON...

"...AFTER I TAKE CARE OF MATTERS ELSEWHERE! TA-TA, BOYS!"

METRO GENERAL

SORRY, MR. WHITE. BUT, FRANKLY, I'M AT A TOTAL LOSS TO EXPLAIN THE CONDITION OF THESE BOYS.

SURE, THEIR BULLET WOUNDS CAUSED A GREAT DEAL OF TRAUMA--

--BUT THEY WEREN'T *SERIOUS* ENOUGH TO CAUSE THIS KIND OF *DECLINE!*

NO MATTER WHAT KIND OF TREATMENT WE TRY, WE JUST CAN'T GET THEIR VITAL SIGNS STABILIZED!

SAME OLD SONG, HUH, DOCTOR?

WELL, PEOPLE TELL ME YOU'RE ONE OF THE BEST! SO, BLAST IT--

--DO *SOMETHING* TO PROVE IT!

PERRY, YOU *KNOW* I'VE TRIED EVERYTHING! SOMETIMES WE JUST CAN'T EXPLAIN CAUSE OR PREDICT EFFECT.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING? JERRY'S NOT WORSE, IS HE?

HE'S HANGING IN THERE, ALICE! THAT BOY IS A REAL TROOPER!

HE'S MY *BABY*! OH, PERRY, IF WE SHOULD... LOSE HIM...

YOU MEAN "OUR" BABY, ALICE? OR *LUTHOR'S*?

I'M AS BAFFLED AS THE *M.D.'S*, MISS LANE. I'D GIVE *ANYTHING* TO HELP JIMMY!

ME TOO, PROFESSOR HAMILTON. I JUST WISH I KNEW WHAT TO SAY TO MAKE THE WHITES FEEL BETTER!

YOU'D BETTER COME BACK, DOCTOR. WHITE'S FEVER IS WORSE!

DEAR GOD, PERRY--

ON MY WAY, NURSE.

"--HOW CAN OUR LIVES SO SUDDENLY BE GOING UP IN FLAMES ?"

SINCE YOU GENTLEMEN SEEM TO LIKE BLAZE'S SO MUCH--

--I THINK PERHAPS I'LL BRING YOU TO MY PERMANENT RESIDENCE--

--FOR A PERMANENT VISIT!

YOU KNOW WELL THAT I EXIST BEYOND YOUR REACH, BLAZE!

AND I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU SAY YOU COULD DO TO ME, LADY...

...SOMEHOW YOU'RE MESSIN' WITH THE LIVES OF JIMMY OLSEN AND JERRY WHITE, AND I'M GONNA--HUH?

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO FATHOM MY EXISTENCE GOES UP IN SMOKE EH, HUMAN ?

TRICKS LIKE THIS ARE NO MEAN FEAT FOR SOMEONE WITH MY CONNECTIONS...

...YOU MIGHT EVEN SAY IT'S IN MY NATURE!

SHWOOP!

TA-TAA!

LOOK, RACER, I'M NOT SURE WHAT YOU'RE ALL ABOUT, BUT I GET THE FEELING YOU CAN *TRACK* HER SOMEHOW!

INDEED. BUT I WILL DO SO... *ALONE.*

YOU BELONG AT THE SIDE OF YOUR FRIENDS. DIRE SIGNS EXIST--

-- THAT TELL ME A TRAGEDY IS IN THE AIR.

AHH, HOME SWEET HOME! MISS ME, BOYS?

BLAZE... TAKE *ME*... PLEEEASE...

JERRY... JUST *LISTEN* TO WHAT YOU'RE SAYIN'! YOU CAN'T GIVE IN--

--YOU'VE GOT TO *FIGHT* HER INFLUENCE!

WHAT A SCRAPPY LITTLE PUPPY YOU ARE!

GET AWAY FROM HER, JIMMY! I DON'T WANT YOU BOYS TO *TOUCH* HER!

NOT SURE, BUT THERE'S APPARENTLY SOME *CONNECTION* BETWEEN THE BOYS PHYSICAL BODIES--

--AND THESE MAGICAL MANIFESTATIONS HERE! THAT BEING THE CASE--

--I HAVE TO *PROTECT* THEM AT ALL COSTS!

SO, JAMES, WHAT EXACTLY IS IT THAT *YOU* DESIRE OF BLAZE?

A SMOLDERING KISS OF ETERNAL PASSION, PERHAPS?

NO... NO...

NO... I *JUST* DON'T UNDERSTAND IT!

WHITE'S FEVER IS WORSE--HIS PULSE CONTINUES TO DROP--YET HE *SHOULD* BE RECOVERING FROM HIS WOUNDS!

OLSEN'S TEMPERATURE IS STARTING TO RISE AS WELL! RECOMMENDED TREATMENT?

GOD, HELP ME... I JUST DON'T KNOW!

BY THE INFINITE DARKNESS, IT WOULD BE *IMPOSSIBLE* TO SATISFY MY *SOUL LUST* WITH YOU, WHELP--

--WHEN THE *ULTIMATE* PRIZE IS STILL WITHIN REACH!

FEEL MY COLD CARESS, SUPERMAN! AND KNOW FULL WELL--

--THAT WHEN OUR LIPS MEET YOU WILL BE CONSIGNED TO MY REALM FOR *ETERNITY!*

OH... GOD... CAN FEEL THE HEAT... *DRAINING* FROM MY... BODY...

IF YOU FIND MY TOUCH EXCITING--

--JUST WAIT UNTIL YOU GET THIS LITTLE TASTE OF EVERLASTING *DAMNATION!*

DREAM ON, WITCH! IF IT'S SICK *KICKS* YOU WANT--

-- THIS IS ALL YOU'LL GET FROM ME!

÷UGH!÷ SHE ACTUALLY GRAZED MY CHEEK WITH THAT SLIMY KISS!

FELT COLD... SO COLD! WHAT KIND OF CREATURE IS SHE, ANYWAY?

GOT TO BREAK AWAY AND GET TO THE BOYS BEFORE SHE GETS THEM! THEY'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO RESIST SUCH POWER!

TAKE A LOOK, BLAZE!

IF YOUR LIVING PILE OF ROCKS CAN'T HANDLE ME--

--THERE'S NO WAY YOU'RE GOING TO KEEP ME OFF YOUR BACK!

KRAK

WAY TO GO, SUPERMAN!

FOOLISH MAN! DO YOU THINK BLAZE'S GRASP IS LIMITED TO MERE ANIMATED ROCK?

MY MANIPULATIONS CAN REACH DEEP INSIDE YOU-- AND BRING THE DARKNESS WITHIN YOU TO THE SURFACE!

BLAZE? BLAZE?! WHY ARE YOU IGNORING ME? PLEASE! I'M THE ONE YOU SELECTED!

WHAT--

--WHAT IS THIS STUFF?

SPREADING SO FAST--CAN'T SHAKE IT LOOSE!

CAN'T BREAK FR--

--EEJMMMPH!

LOOKS LIKE MY LITTLE KISS TOOK YOUR BREATH AWAY AFTER ALL, EH?

OH, MAN! WE'RE DEAD MEAT NOW!

I'M TELLIN' YOU, LANA, YOU CUT YOURSELF ONE SWEETHEART OF A DEAL TODAY!

AND THAT AIN'T TOO BAD--

FOR SALE

SOLD

REALTY

BARNEY HARRIS

--CONSIDERIN' ALL THE WORK THE OLD PLACE NEEDS! SEE YOU AROUND, KIDS!

S'LONG, BARNEY! SEE YA AT THE NEXT LODGE MEETING!

HMMPH! IT'S A *WONDERFUL* OLD HOUSE! IT DOESN'T NEED MUCH WORK AT ALL!

HARRIS REALTY

UP-514

FOR SALE

OH, I KNOW IT'S HARD SELLING THE FAMILY FARM, LANA, BUT LOOK AT IT THIS WAY!

OF COURSE... YOU'RE RIGHT, PETE. AND IF YOU HADN'T BEEN HERE THIS WOULD'VE BEEN EVEN MORE DIFFICULT!

THE MONEY YOU GOT WILL GIVE YOU THE FREEDOM TO DO JUST 'BOUT ANYTHING YOU WANT!

TOTAL... ABSOLUTE FREEDOM IS *JUST* WHAT I NEED!

SEEMS LIKE I'VE KEPT MY LIFE ON HOLD SINCE HIGH SCHOOL--

LANG

U.S. MAIL

--WASTING TIME WAITING FOR CLARK TO COME BACK AND SWEEP ME AWAY!

FUNNY. BACK IN HIGH SCHOOL I WANTED TO ASK YOU OUT, BUT EVEN THEN YOU ONLY HAD EYES FOR YOUNG MISTER KENT.

AND NOW THAT BOOK HAS FINALLY BEEN CLOSED!

SALE

YOU WANTED TO DATE *ME*?

WHY, PETE, I HAD NO IDEA!

IT'S TRUE...

SO HOW 'BOUT I TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT OVER A DOUBLE CHEESE PIZZA?

HE DOESN'T LOOK LIKE MUCH OF A MAN OF STEEL ANYMORE, DOES HE?

TWO DOWN, ONE TO GO. YOU, BOY, ARE NEXT!

NO WAY, BROOMHILDA! I'M OUTTA HERE!

THE QUESTION IS WHERE?

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GONNA FIND AN ELEVATOR TO THE SURFACE!

AND THE WAY SUPERMAN TELLS IT, IT'S NOT REALLY ME HERE ANYWAY!

JUST SOME KIND OF MAGICAL REPRESENTATION OF MY EARTH SELF!

RUN AS FAR AS YOU WANT, BOY, FOR YOU CAN'T ESCAPE ME!

YOU'RE HERE, FOREVER!

WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM US? WE'RE NOBODY SPECIAL TO YOU!

TSSSSS

OF COURSE YOU'RE NOBODYS. BUT I NEED ALL THE NOBODYS I CAN GET.

FWOOOSH

LEAVE HIM ALONE, BLAZE!

YOU'RE NOT DONE WITH ME YET!

BRAK-KA-KOOM!

NO MATTER WHAT YOU THROW AT ME I'LL *TRASH IT!*

SKYHOOK, YOUR MINDLESS MINIONS, YOUR MOLTEN COCOONS--

--NOTHING IS GOING TO STOP ME FROM SAVING THOSE BOYS!

=SIGH= YOU ARE TRYING MY *PATIENCE*, MORTAL!

DON'T YOU SEE YOUR EFFORTS ARE *FUTILE*? THAT NO ONE HAS EVER, *EVER* DEFEATED ME?

DOESN'T-- =UHF=--

--MATTER TO ME, LADY!

KRAAH

YOU'VE NEVER COME UP AGAINST ANYONE LIKE ME BEFORE, EITHER!

I'LL TAKE THIS PLACE OF YOURS APART BRICK BY BRICK UNTIL YOU LET THOSE BOYS GO!

LET THEM GO? MY DEAR, ONE OF THESE DELICIOUS YOUNG SOULS IS SECONDS AWAY FROM BECOMING MINE *FOREVER!*

BKOWW!

LOOKS LIKE SHE'S ABOUT TO NAIL OLSEN! MAYBE I CAN GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE--

OH, MAN! HEAD'S REELING! BLAZE... SO BUSY... I'M ABLE TO FIGHT HER CONTROL OVER ME!

WHAT AM I THINKING? I CAN'T LET HER TAKE JIMMY!

IF THE GUY HADN'T JUMPED IN FRONT OF THOSE BULLETS INTENDED FOR ME--

--HE WOULDN'T EVEN BE IN THIS MESS! AND I WOULD SURE AS HECK BE DEAD BY NOW!

CHILL OUT, BLAZE! YOU WANNA LAY THOSE LIPS ON SOMEONE-- THEN TAKE ME!

SO THE BOY SEEKS TO BECOME A MAN, DOES HE?

DON'T BE AN IDIOT, JERRY! GET OUT OF HERE WHILE YOU STILL CAN!

WELCOME TO THE ETERNAL DAMNATION OF MY AFTER-LIFE, BOY!

MMMM... MMM... DELICIOUS!

ARRGH!

EEEEEEEEEEEEEEP

WE'VE GOT A CODE BLUE IN I.C.U.!

GET THE CRASH CART IN HERE STAT! THE PATIENT'S GONE INTO CARDIAC ARREST WITH MASSIVE CONVULSIONS!

BROOM

JERRY?!

LORD, ALL I NEEDED WAS A LITTLE MORE TIME!

I COULD HAVE SAVED US ALL!

AND NOW THAT YOU'VE TASTED THE FIRES OF MY EVERLASTING KISS--

--YOU'RE MINE FOR ALL TIME!

ALL BRAIN, HEART, LUNG AND NEUROLOGICAL SYSTEMS HAVE CEASED.

MARK THE TIME OF DEATH ON THE CERTIFICATE, PLEASE.

I'D BETTER GO NOTIFY THE POOR BOY'S FAMILY--

BLAZE--YOU... MURDERER!

I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU AND YOUR MIND LESS CREATIONS APART-- PIECE...BY... PIECE!

YOU HEAR ME, WOMAN?

I'M COMING FOR YOU!

YOU CHILDREN AND YOUR JUVENILE CAT-AND-MOUSE GAMES BORE ME.

CONSIDER THEM OVER.

FWOOOSH

DOWN, JIM!

NO WAY I'M GOING TO LET ANYONE ELSE DIE TODAY!

INTENSIVE CARE

NO SMOKING

ONCE I GET THIS FIRE PUT OUT, I'M GOING TO FIND A WAY TO THE SURFACE!

B-BUT JERRY! HE-- HE *SACRIFICED* HIMSELF FOR *ME*!

I KNOW, AND WE WON'T LET THAT SACRIFICE BE FOR NOTHING!

I'LL GET YOU AS FAR AWAY FROM BLAZE AS POSSIBLE!

I HEAR *PLUTO* IS PRETTY NICE THIS TIME OF YEAR!

GOOD POINT. SHE'LL PROBABLY FOLLOW US ANYWHERE WE GO.

I'D SAY SHE NEEDS SOMETHING ELSE TO OCCUPY HER.

THINK IT CAN GET ANY *HOTTER* DOWN HERE?

IDIOTIC MORTAL! YOUR LUKE-WARM-VISION COMPLETELY *MISSED* ME!

ARE YOU *NUTS*, SUPERMAN? THAT'S LIKE TRYING TO STOP A GREAT, WHITE SHARK WITH A *SQUIRT GUN*!

HEY, FOLKS. WHAT'S THE LATEST WORD...

...ON...

OH, GEEZ.

IT'S JERRY, ISN'T IT?

HEY--LOOKS LIKE YOUR HEAT VISION MUST'VE UPSET SOME KINDA DELICATE BALANCE OR SUMTHIN'!

I MEAN, THIS PLACE IS CRUMBLIN' LIKE A PACKAGE OF CRACKERS!

RRRRUMBLE

YOUR DESPERATION IS SO OBVIOUS!

DO YOU FOOLISH LITTLE MEN ACTUALLY BELIEVE A SIMPLE LITTLE EARTHQUAKE AND LAVA FIRE CAN HARM ME?

I *RULE* THIS DOMAIN! BLOOD HOTTER THAN THE FIRES OF THE EARTH'S CORE FLOWS THROUGH MY HEART!

ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS HERE IS DUE TO MY ORCHESTRATION! YOU'LL *NEVER* TOPPLE ME FROM--

WRA BOOM

OKAY, JIM, I EXPECT YOU TO LISSEN 'N LISSEN *GOOD!*

I ALREADY LOST ONE FRIEND TODAY AND THAT'S WHERE IT'S GONNA STOP, YA HEAR?

YOU ARE A *SURVIVOR* AND I WANT YOU TO PROVE IT BY OPENING THOSE EYES! YOU *GOTTA* MAKE IT!

GEE, SUPERMAN. YOU THINK THAT FALLING ROCK GUY NAILED BLAZE FOR GOOD?

HERE? IN *HER* ELEMENT? SOMEHOW, I DOUBT IT!

THE BEST WE CAN HOPE FOR IS THAT WE HAVE TIME TO PUT A LOT A DISTANCE BETWEEN US--

"--BEFORE THIS PLACE IS TURNED INTO A RAGING INFERNO."

BY THE LORDS OF CHAOS! I SENSE A DISRUPTION OF IMMENSE MAGNITUDE IN THE REALM OF BLACK DAMNATION!

I THOUGHT ONLY TRIGON COULD CAST SUCH A RIPPLE THROUGH MYSTIC DIMENSIONS--

--AND STILL I SENSE IT IS NOT HIS DOING!

SUCH DISTORTION CAN MEAN ONLY ONE THING. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER--

--BLAZE HAS TASTED DEFEAT.

OOOO,,, FEEL KINDA WEIRD. FEEL LIKE I'M--' I *AM*! I'M DISAPPEARING!

HOPEFULLY THIS IS A *GOOD* SIGN!

WISH ME, LUCK,,, AND I'LL SEE YOU TOPSIDE, *PAL*.

OHH, MANNN,,, WHY IS IT SO FREAKIN' HOT IN HERE?

COULDN'T BE *POSITIVE* IF JIMMY'S FADE-OUT WAS GOOD OR BAD!

NO NEED TO TELEGRAPH MY CONCERN TO HIM, THOUGH...

"... NOT WHEN THERE'S LITTLE MORE FOR ME TO DO THAN *PRAY!*

HAVE TO GET BACK TO METROPOLIS AND FIND OUT FOR SURE!

AND EVEN THOUGH IT TOOK THE *BLACK RACER* TO GET ME HERE --

-- THERE'S OBVIOUSLY NO PLACE TO GO BUT UP!

MINUTES LATER, A LONG DORMANT VOLCANO IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMES TO LIFE BREATHING FIRE --

-- AND MORE.

I'M TELLING YOU, FOLKS, YOUNG OLSEN'S RECOVERY *HAS* TO BE THE FASTEST ON *RECORD!*

PARY

GEE, DOC, IT'S REALLY HARD TO BELIEVE THAT I WAS IN A COMA JUST AN HOUR AGO!

SEEMS LIKE I WAS JUST SLEEPING! AND ALL I REMEMBER IS SOME VAGUE IMPRESSIONS OF A CRAZY DREAM--

--WHERE SUPERMAN AND JERRY WHITE DID *SOMETHING* TO SAVE MY LIFE!

GET WELL SOON

THERE ARE THOSE WHO INSIST THAT OUR DREAMS REVEAL THE TRUTH, JIM! WHO REALLY *KNOWS* WHAT BROUGHT YOU BACK?

MR. KENT!

THAT STUBBLE...? IN MY DREAM...? *NAH!*

GLAD YOU'RE ALL RIGHT, SON. LOOK, WE'VE REALLY HAD OUR DIFFERENCES LATELY...

HOW ABOUT WE PUT IT ALL BEHIND US AND TRY TO GET ALONG AGAIN?

HEARD YOU'RE NOT FEELING WELL...

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME, MR. KENT!

GOOD. AND WE'LL GET STARTED ON IT REAL SOON--

--AFTER I TALK TO SOME OTHER FRIENDS.

MR. LUTHOR? I HAVE THE INFORMATION YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR. I'M SORRY--

EMERG

--BUT JERRY WHITE DIDN'T MAKE IT.

YOU ARE SUMMONED, JERRY WHITE.

OH.

I-IS THAT ME?

YOUR BODY, YES.

THE I'M REALLY--?

DEAD. I'M AFRAID SO.

BUT I DON'T GET IT! I LOOK FINE.

THERE IS ONE FINAL JOURNEY THAT STILL AWAITS YOU.

BUT WE JUST LEFT--! NO.., YOU CAN'T MEAN THAT I'M GOING TO--

HAVE NO FEAR. YOU HAVE BEEN DEEMED WORTHY.

REALLY?! MAN, DO I FEEL SORTA WEIRD!

BETTER?

YEAH... DEFINITELY.

THEN RELAX...

...AND ENJOY YOUR JUST REWARDS.

ALL RIGHT, JUDY... TIME FOR ALL GOOD LITTLE GIRLS TO BE SNUG IN THEIR BEDS

AW, INGA CAN'T I STAY UP 'TIL MOMMY GETS HOME?

YOU KNOW YOUR MOTHER IS ATTENDING ANOTHER BUSINESS SHE WON'T BE HOME UNTIL VERY LATE.

SHE'D BE VERY UNHAPPY WITH US AGAIN IF YOU DON'T GET YOUR SLEEP

UH-HUH

INGA...

...WHEN IS DADDY COMING HOME?

I DON'T KNOW, DEAR... AS SOON AS HIS BUSINESS IN LONDON IS FINISHED.

NOW PLEASE SAY YOUR NIGHT AND CLOSE YOUR EYES

GOOD NIGHT INGA

I WISH MOMMY AN' DADDY WEREN'T ALWAYS SO BUSY

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, JUDY...

...IT SEEMS LIKE THEY NEVER HAVE TIME FOR US!

TEDDY! YOU CAN TALK!

OH, I CAN DO MORE THAN THAT JUDY... MUCH MORE

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SUPERMAN

There is a happy land... far, far away...

I THOUGHT I HEARD SOME ACTION OUT THIS WAY

FIVE PATROL CARS AND ALL AVAILABLE SUPERMEN SUPER LEAGUE, EVERYTHING'S BEING DRAWN!

ROGER STERN - WRITER
BRETT BREEDING - INKER
BILL OAKLEY - LETTERER
JOHN PETROSINI - ASSOCIATE

WHATEVER HAPPENED HERE APPEARS TO BE OVER.

SUPERMAN'S PHYSICALLY NOT NEEDED.

BUT ANY INVESTIGATION INVOLVING SO MANY WANTED CRIMINALS AND AN INSPECTOR WHO DETESTS IS OF THE FINITE INTEREST TO CLARK KENT

IF I HURRY, I MIGHT GET A STORY IN TIME FOR THE AFTERNOON EDITION.

PARDON ME—

HUH? WHERE'D YOU COME FROM?

THE DAILY PLANET— NAME'S KENT I'D LIKE TO SEE SOMEONE FOR MEDICAL AID

HE'S CLAT-- LET 'UM IN.

...CAN'T BELIEVE IT, INSPECTOR... I JUST CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT KIND OF A MONSTER WOULD HAVE TAKEN JUDY?

I DON'T KNOW MA'AM BUT WE'LL DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO FIND HER AND YOUR DAUGHTER. I PROMISE YOU THAT! IN THE MEANTIME, I'VE GIVEN THE ORDER FOR HEAVY POLICE PRESENCE FOR YOUR SAFETY.

SHOULD THE KIDNAPPERS ATTEMPT TO CONTACT YOU SHE'LL KNOW HOW TO HANDLE THINGS

HELLO KENT I'M HERE TO ESCORT THE MEDIA TO SAFETY

OH YOU KNOW ME. DILL

CHAPPING?

YEAH A LITTLE GIRL ABDUCTED FROM HER OWN HOME ISN'T EXACTLY THIS IS A STRANGE ONE

NOW WHY?

FOR ONE THING, THE ONLY OTHER PERSON IN THE HOUSE AT THE TIME WAS THE NANNY AND SHE SWEARS SHE DIDN'T HEAR ANYTHING. I GUESS THAT'S POSSIBLE... THE SECURITY ALARM WAS CIRCUMVENTED.

BUT— WE'LL KEEP ON— AS LONG AS YOU'RE HERE YOU MIGHT AS WELL MAKE THIS A BUSINESS TRIP!

THE LITTLE GIRL WAS APPARENTLY TAKEN OUT THROUGH THAT WINDOW. THE NANNY INSISTS THAT SHE LOCKED IT BUT, SEE SHE PUT THE GIRL TO BED. BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF FORCED ENTRY...

...AND THE LATCH IS TOO HIGH FOR THE GIRL TO HAVE UNLOCKED IT HERSELF

AND YOU'RE CERTAIN THAT THE NANNY WAS THE ONLY ONE IN THE HOUSE?

UH-HUH - WHICH MAKES HER A PRIME SUSPECT. I CAN'T QUITE BELIEVE THAT SHE'S MIXED UP IN THIS, THOUGH - SHE'S BEEN WITH THE FAMILY FOR YEARS. IT JUST DOESN'T FEEL RIGHT

WE'VE BEEN OVER THE NOTE WITH A FINE TOOTH COMB, NO PRINTS OR ANYTHING - NOT A SINGLE PRINT!

THEN THERE WAS A RANSOM NOTE?

NOT EXACTLY. ALL IT SAYS IS "SUCH AND SUCH COME BACK, IF YOU'RE VERY GOOD."

WHAT THE DEVIL--?

I CAN SEE TRACES OF TWO INFRA-RED AFTER-IMAGES IN THE CHILD'S BED - THEY'RE VERY INDISTINCT, BUT--

BILL, IS ANYTHING MISSING BESIDES THE GIRL? PERHAPS A PET OR SOMETHING?

NO, I DON'T HAVE ANY RECORD OF... WAIT A MINUTE! THERE WAS ONE THING...

APPARENTLY, THE LITTLE GIRL'S TEDDY BEAR WAS TAKEN, TOO

HER TEDDY BEAR?!

"NO! IT CAN'T BE--"

— NOT JUDY! NOT MY LITTLE GIRL! WHY? WHY?!

WE DON'T KNOW MR JESSUP. BUT THE METROPOLIS POLICE ASSURE US THAT THEY'RE WORKING ON IT

I'M JUST SORRY I HAD TO BRING YOU SUCH AWFUL NEWS. I HAVE A COUPLE OF DAUGHTERS MYSELF.

I— APPRECIATE THAT, LIEUTENANT, BUT—

BRRRT BRRRT

GEORGE, I JUST HEARD THE NEWS. IT'S TERRIBLE. THIS MONSTROUS THING. IS THERE ANYTHING I CAN DO— ANYTHING AT ALL?

I'M— NOT CERTAIN MR LUTHOR. I— I'LL HAVE TO TAKE SOME TIME ONE— HAVE TO GET BACK TO METROPOLIS— MY WIFE—!

MMM

YES— YES. OF COURSE. A COMPANY JET WILL BE WAITING FOR YOU AT O'HARE. I'LL SEE TO IT MYSELF!

THANK YOU, SIR.

THIS WOULD HAVE TO HAPPEN NOW! JESSUP WAS THE KEY MAN IN MY CHICAGO STRATEGY. I'LL HAVE TO PULL MORRISON IN FROM THE COAST AND START ALL OVER!

MARRIED MEN MAY BE MORE STABLE ON THE WHOLE BUT LET SOMETHING HAPPEN TO THEIR CHILDREN AND THEY FALL APART ON YOU!

CHILDREN — THEY MAKE MADMEN OF US ALL.

MR L, THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE MAILROOM!

"SOMETHING"? BE MORE SPECIFIC EMILY.

I'M NOT SURE I CAN. YOU HAVE TO SEE IT FOR YOURSELF.

HMM. OBVIOUSLY, SOME SORT OF SELF-CONTAINED [illegible] FIND OUT WHERE IT CAME FROM AND--!

EH?

...THERE, THAT'S BETTER! MY NAME IS SCHOTT... W.P. SCHOTT. THOUGH FLEET STREET HAS TAKEN TO CALLING ME THE [illegible] OF LATELY FOLLOWING THE DISAPPEARANCE OF JUDY JERAULD & ARDUCTION... MY DOING, I'M AFRAID.

--SO, IN RETURN, I INTEND TO DESTROY YOU-- AND YOUR LITTLE EMPIRE ...BIT BY BIT!

AND THE CHILDREN SHALL BE MY WEAPON!

AND BUT FOR--

GOOD LORD. HE WAS RIGHT--IT JUST--

I HAVE BEEN [illegible]

GET SECURITY IN HERE AT ONCE! HAVE THE REMAINS OF THIS THING ANALYZED RIGHT DOWN TO ITS ATOMS

I WANT TO KNOW EVERYTHING ABOUT IT... INCLUDING WHERE IT CAME FROM! I [illegible]

"...AND I WANT TO KNOW WHAT BACK HE'S HIDING UNDER!"

HOW MUCH WOOD...UNCLE HERMAN?

SURE A TON MORE GETS MORE SUCH WE MIGHT BE INTERESTED... A TON! ONE TON TAKES TIME... THERE

WHO JUST RAN I PLAY WITH YOU?

YOU TWO, RUN AROUND NOW AND HAVE FUN

NO, NO!

DON'T GO TOO FAR!

WE WON'T!

ALL RIGHT I'M WORKING!

BZZZ KLINK

HYMAN...!

WHAT IS IT, KAHNHEIM?

I JUST HEARD ABOUT THE JUDGE'S DEATH. ARE YOU AND YOUR BOSS SURE THAT'S ALL THEY'LL DO?

I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF A BIG PLAN AND THE LAST THING I NEED IS HEAT FROM MR. LEXCORP. I THOUGHT IT WAS UNDERSTOOD WHEN YOU WERE INVITED TO JOIN INTERGANG THAT--!

INVITED? I REMEMBER MY FIRST ENCOUNTER WITH YOUR ORGANIZATION QUITE WELL, ONE -- AND I REFUSE NOT CALL WHAT I RECEIVED AN INVITATION!

I NEVER WOULD EVEN HAVE HEARD OF SUPERMAN HAD IT NOT BEEN FOR LEX LUTHOR! HE WAS THE POWER BEHIND THE TAKEOVER OF JOHN BAIN TOYS! HIS UNDERLINGS BACKED ME AFTER 40 YEARS AS A TOYMAKER

- I SHOULD VENGEANCE UPON THEM ALL!

"BUT WHEN I CAME TO MYSELF I FOUND MYSELF IN A NIGHTMARE LIFE, SUPERMAN DEFEATED - I WAS JUST STARTING TO REALIZE WE'D HAD SOMETHING--"

"IT HAPPENED IN SUPERMAN #13

"--WHEN THE NEXT THING I'D GET UP WAS SUDDENLY ATTACKED BY TWO OF YOUR SUBTERRANEAN WALL-CRAWLERS!"

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS? EXPLAIN YOURSELVES!

WE'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU, POPS! JUST THINK OF US AS THE LOCAL WELCOME WAGON - WE'RE HERE TO TAKE YOU TO--!

EEYAHHH!

YOU SHALL NOT TAKE ME ANYWHERE!

BUT AWAY FROM THAT CONTROL BOARD, OLD MAN!

YA HEAR? I SAID GET AWAY FROM IT!!

"WHEN I CAME TO, MY HEAD HAD BEEN TENDED, BUT I WAS NOT IN THE ROBOT MANUFACTURING CENTER OF SUPERVILLAINS."

WHAT IS THIS PLACE? HELLO? HELLO?

I DEMAND TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON!

CALM YOURSELF, MR. BARRETT! YOU ARE IN NO POSITION TO DEMAND ANYTHING!

WHO--WHAT IS THAT?

SOMEONE WHO RECOGNIZES YOUR POTENTIAL AS SUCH! SOMEONE WHO DOES NOT WISH TO SEE THAT POTENTIAL WASTED IN PETTY VENGEANCE SCHEMES!

"POTENTIAL"? WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

I MEAN MR. BARRETT, THAT FROM NOW ON--

...YOU ARE NOT TO USE ANY!

"GIVE THE SILVER-TONGUED DEVIL HIS DUE AND NUMBER EDDIE - HE'S NO LESS THAN AN EQUAL TO BALANCED FEATHERS AND CAN-VINCE ME TO THROW IN WITH HIS CREW."

IT IS NOT 'WE' CREW ANYMORE TOMMY! EDDIE IS ABOUT TO GO UP THE RIVER -- I RUN INTERGANG NOW!

THAT MAY WELL BE, BUT YOU DO NOT "RUN" WILKINSON PERSONAL SECURITY! MY AGREEMENT WAS WITH EDDIE!

WITH HIS INCARCERA-TION YOUR ALLIANCE IS ALREADY LIFTED! HEADSHOT HAS BEEN CUT OFF! AND I AM ONE OF THE FEW WHO HAD ANY HITCH IN THE TRIANGLE BEHIND IT!

THERE, THERE, TOM! BUT--!

IF YOU WISH ME TO DEVELOP ANY MORE SUCH ARMAMENT FOR INTERGANG -- STAY OUT OF MY PERSONAL AFFAIRS!

IS SOMETHING WRONG, UNCLE WILLIE? WE HEARD YOU YELLING--!

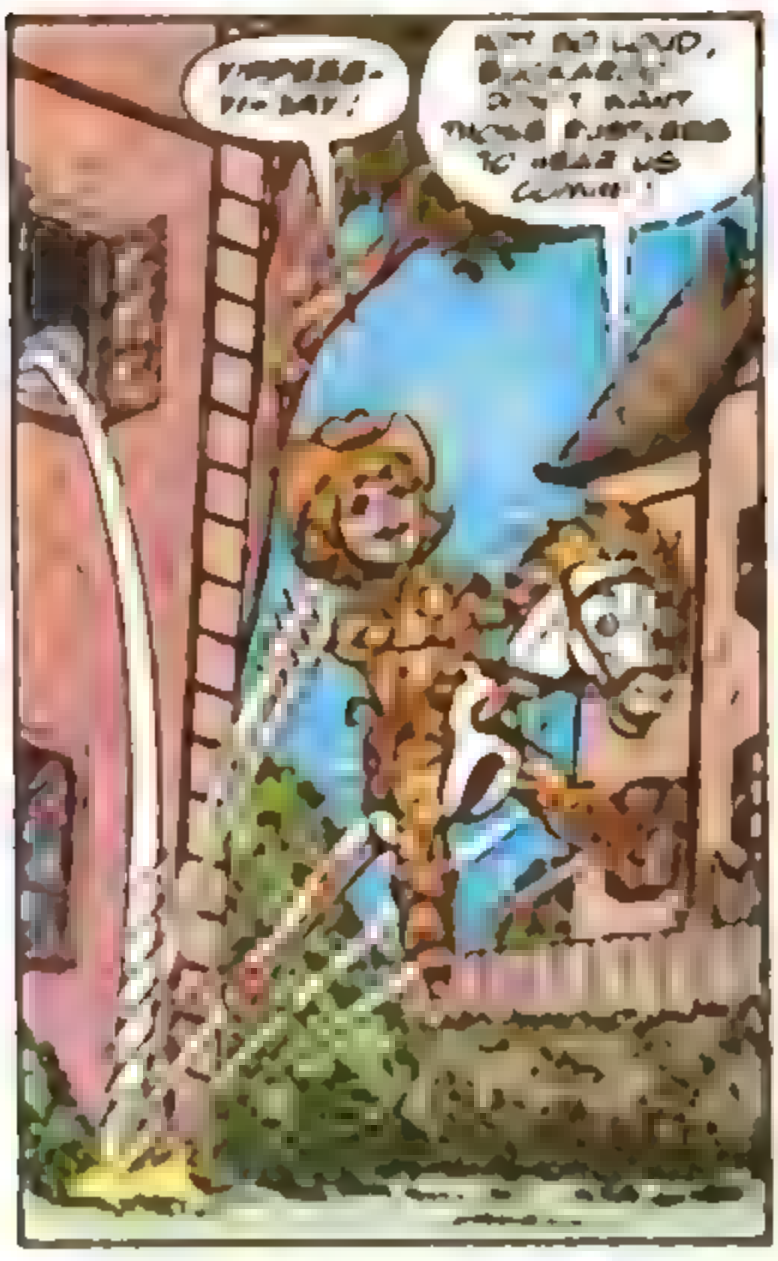
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, TUFF! JUST A BAD CONNECTION ON THE PHONE...

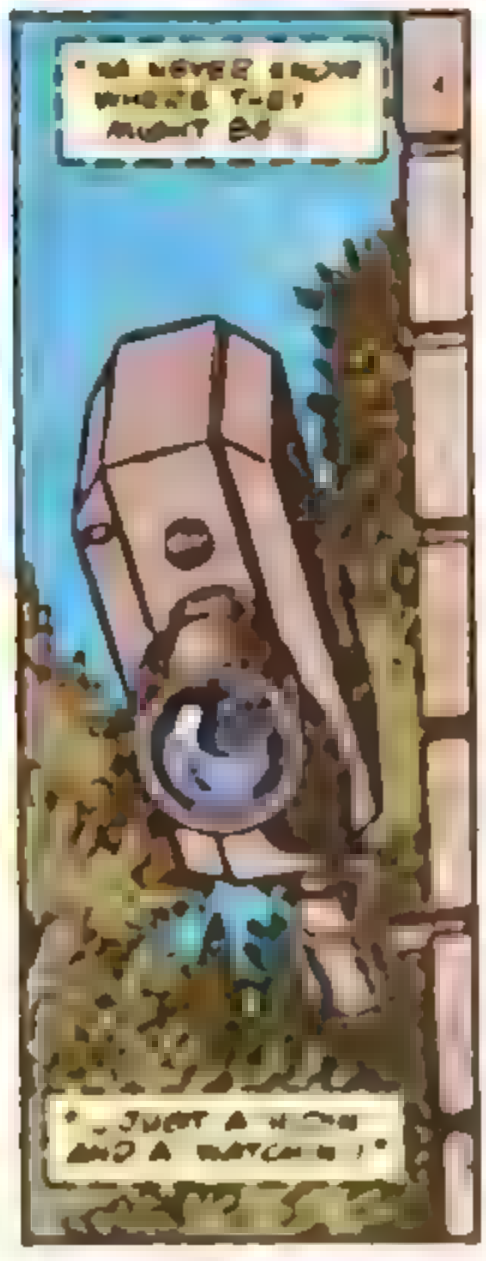
...HAD TO RAISE MY VOICE A BIT TO MAKE MYSELF UNDER-STOOD. EVERYTHING'S FINE NOW.

I DARE SAY, WE'LL SOON BE HAVING EVEN MORE FUN!

REALLY?

OH MY OBLIGATIONS TO BE SURE.





WITHOUT A TRACE, INSPECTOR. WE SEARCHED EVERY INCH OF THOSE WOODS WITH MEN AND DOGS, BUT IT WAS AS IF SHE VANISHED INTO THIN AIR!

AFTER SEEING HER SHOOT ACROSS THE LAWN ON THAT POGO-PONY, I WOULDN'T BE SURPRISED BY ANYTHING LOOKS LIKE TOYMAN'S WORK, ALL RIGHT.

UH, YES.. AS I SAID, THE THREAT WE RECEIVED WAS VERY VAGUE --

-- BUT SO FAR FIVE CHILDREN OF TOP LEXCORP EXECUTIVES ARE MISSING. MR. LUTHOR IS VERY CONCERNED.

SO AM I. THE FIRST THING WE HAVE TO DO IS SEPARATE THE REMAINING KIDS FROM THEIR TOYS, AT LEAST UNTIL WE CAN CHECK THEM OUT.

THAT WILL BE NO PROBLEM.

.. MR LUTHOR & ALREADY HAD THE CHILDREN WHOM WE CONSIDER AT-RISK FLOWN TO HIS WILDERNESS COMPOUND. THEY WERE TOLD IT WAS A SPECIAL CAMPING TRIP.

GOOD IDEA.

DAVE? GIVE THE SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT A CALL... TELL 'EM I'M ON MY WAY DOWN WITH A JOB FOR 'EM.

YEAH, THE KIDNAP THING IS BIGGER THAN WE THOUGHT.

IT MUST BE BIG, IF HE'S GOING TO THE S.C.U. -- HIM AND CAP'N SAWYER HAVE NEVER GOTTEN ALONG.

SORRY, MR. KENT. THE INSPECTOR'S TIED UP RIGHT NOW... ANYTHING I CAN HELP YA WITH?

NO.. THANK YOU, SERGEANT.. I HAVE ALL I NEED FOR NOW

LUTHOR MAY WELL HAVE DONE THE RIGHT THING BY MOVING THOSE KIDS OUT OF TOWN...

.. BUT IF THE TOYMAN HAS STOOPED TO KIDNAPPING CHILDREN, I DOUBT THAT A CHANGE OF LOCALE WILL STOP HIM FOR LONG

I'D BETTER CHECK OUT THE SECURITY AT LUTHOR'S COMPOUND..

...I THOUGHT THESE KIDS WOULD NEVER FALL ASLEEP!

MOTION DETECTORS.

THERE ?

...B-BEARS ! MUST BE A DOZEN OF 'EM !

DIDN'T YOU WONDER WHY THOSE "BEARS" WERE MULTI-COLORED? THE KIND YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SHOOTING ARE MORE THAN THOSE THINGS!

I... DIDN'T GET THAT GOOD A LOOK AT 'EM U-NOT EVERYONE CAN SEE AS GOOD AS YOU!

ALL THE MORE REASON TO PUT THE GUNS AWAY--

--AND LEAVE THE BEAR TRAPPING TO ME.

KRACHAK

GOOD THING I SAW THAT COMING! THOSE BOOBY-TRAPS ARE MORE POWERFUL THAN THE REAL THING--

BUT THEY'RE MOVING TOO FAST!

THERE APPEARS TO BE A CUSHIONED PROTECTIVE LAYER AROUND THE CHILD WHICH, ALMOST LIKE A... SLEEPING BAG?

OF COURSE!

YOU THERE! SEE TO THIS CHILD.

H-HUH? SUPERMAN?

GEE--THEY'RE HEADING INTO A CLEARING! THAT'S NOT VERY SMART--

I'LL BE ABLE TO ROUND THEM ALL UP BEFORE ANY OF THEM CAN--!

RRREEEEEEEE

WHAT IN THE--? SOME SORT OF LIGHT SHOW? NO, IT'S AN OPENING...A WARP!

"THOSE THINGS ARE GETTING AWAY--I'LL A BOOM THEM!!"

THIS IS INSANE!

THE BLACK RACER TOOK ME DOWN ONE OF THESE CROSS-DIMENSIONAL TUNNELS JUST A COUPLE OF WEEKS AGO--BUT HE HAD SOME KIND OF LINK WITH THE SUPER-BEINGS OF NEW GENESIS AND APOKOLIPS

I DON'T KNOW WHERE THE TOYMAN CAME UP WITH THE POWER TO CREATE SOMETHING LIKE THIS, BUT I HOPE I CAN FIND THE ANSWER--

IT LAST CHANCE FOR US

--AT THE END OF THIS TUBE! THERE...SEEMS AS IF IT'S MILES AWAY, BUT I CAN SEE THOSE PHONY BEAR-THINGS, AND WHAT LOOKS LIKE THE RUINS OF AN AMUSEMENT PARK!

BOOM

WHAT?!

TUBE'S FADING OUT! CAN'T STOP--!

KERUNK

BLAST! ANOTHER FEW SECONDS, AND I WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THROUGH!

WELL IF THE TOYMAN IS BEHIND THIS HE'S MADE A SERIOUS MISTAKE THIS TIME...

HMPH! I DARE

LISTEN TO ME, TOYMAN ... WE DIDN'T SET YOU UP TO PROVIDE DAYCARE! THIS CAN'T GO ON!

HEH-HEH! UGLY MANN-HEIM SOUNDS FIT

SO WHAT? HE CAN'T DO ANYTHING AS LONG AS WE'RE ARMED! THAT OLD CODGER, WE GOT NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT!

ALERT!

HAPPYLAND AMUSEMENT PARK...

* IN JACK KIRBY'S CLASSIC FOREVER PEOPLE #1!

HUH — I CAN'T APPEAR TO BE ANY CLOSER TO — WAIT! WHAT'S THIS?

THERE'S SOME KIND OF LIGHT DISTORTION IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PARK GROUNDS. PERHAPS IT COULDN'T BE NOTICEABLE TO NORMAL VISION

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE TOYMAN? WHAT'S GOIN' ON...

GYAAAAAH!!

THESE DISRUPTORS THE TOYMAN WHIPPED UP SURELY PUT A HURT ON 'IM — HE'S TWITCHIN' LIKE A SQUIRREL ON A 'LECTRIFIED FENCE!

POUR IT ON! WE'VE GOT 'IM ON THE ROPES!

SUNNNGH

WHY — CAN'T — MOVE!

HEY YOU!

ENERGY BEAMS... NOT LIKE THE COVIL BUT TO CUT THEM — ONE!

WATCH OUT! DON'T LET 'IM — CLOSE! LOOK OUT!

JUST AS I THOUGHT... THESE GUNS DON'T WORK TOO WELL WITH THEIR BUSINESS ENDS CRIMPED!

KRAKOOM

ROUND ONE TO YOU, SUPERMAN!

TRIGGERS IF I WERE

INTERGANG, EH? THAT

THUNK

THUNK

THUNK

THIS AREA! YOU'RE FRIGHTENING THE CHILDREN!

TO US-- WE GOTTA GET OUTTA HERE!

SUPERMAN?

I'VE WONDERED FOR SOME TIME WHERE INTERGANG'S BEEN GETTING ITS WEAPONS

WHAT'S HAPPENING?

THIS COULD BE TROUBLE

NO!!

WHAT--?

THIS BATTLE WILL CEASE--

--AT ONCE! DO YOU HEAR ME?! YOU ARE ENDANGERING INNOCENT LIVES, AND I WILL NOT HAVE THAT!

IT IS TOY-MAN... OR RATHER, A GIANT HOLO-GRAM OF HIM!

PUT DOWN YOUR WEAPONS - OR I SHALL PUT THEM DOWN FOR YOU!

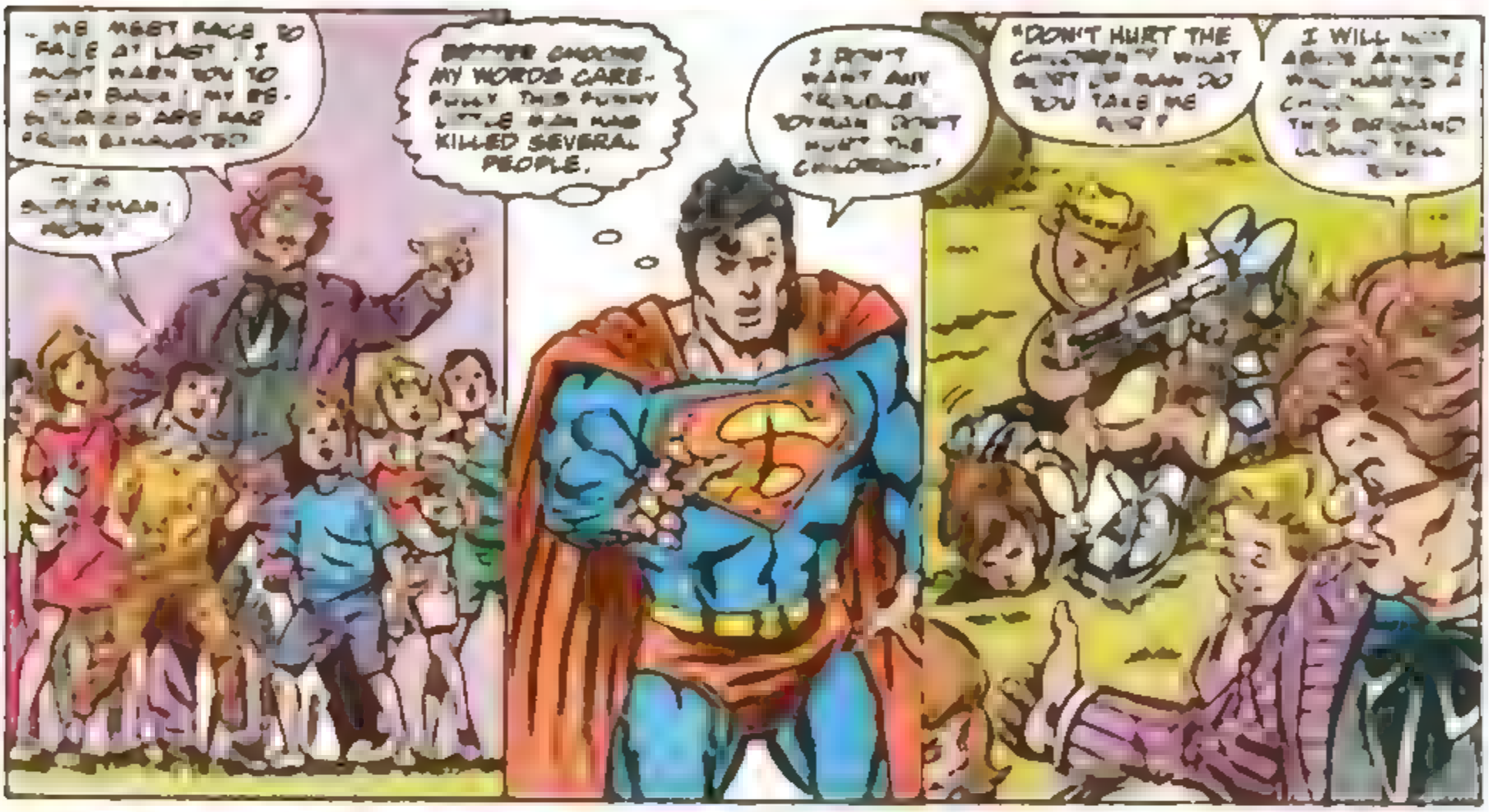
NO, NOT THE SIGMA CANNON!

WHU--? WHOA!

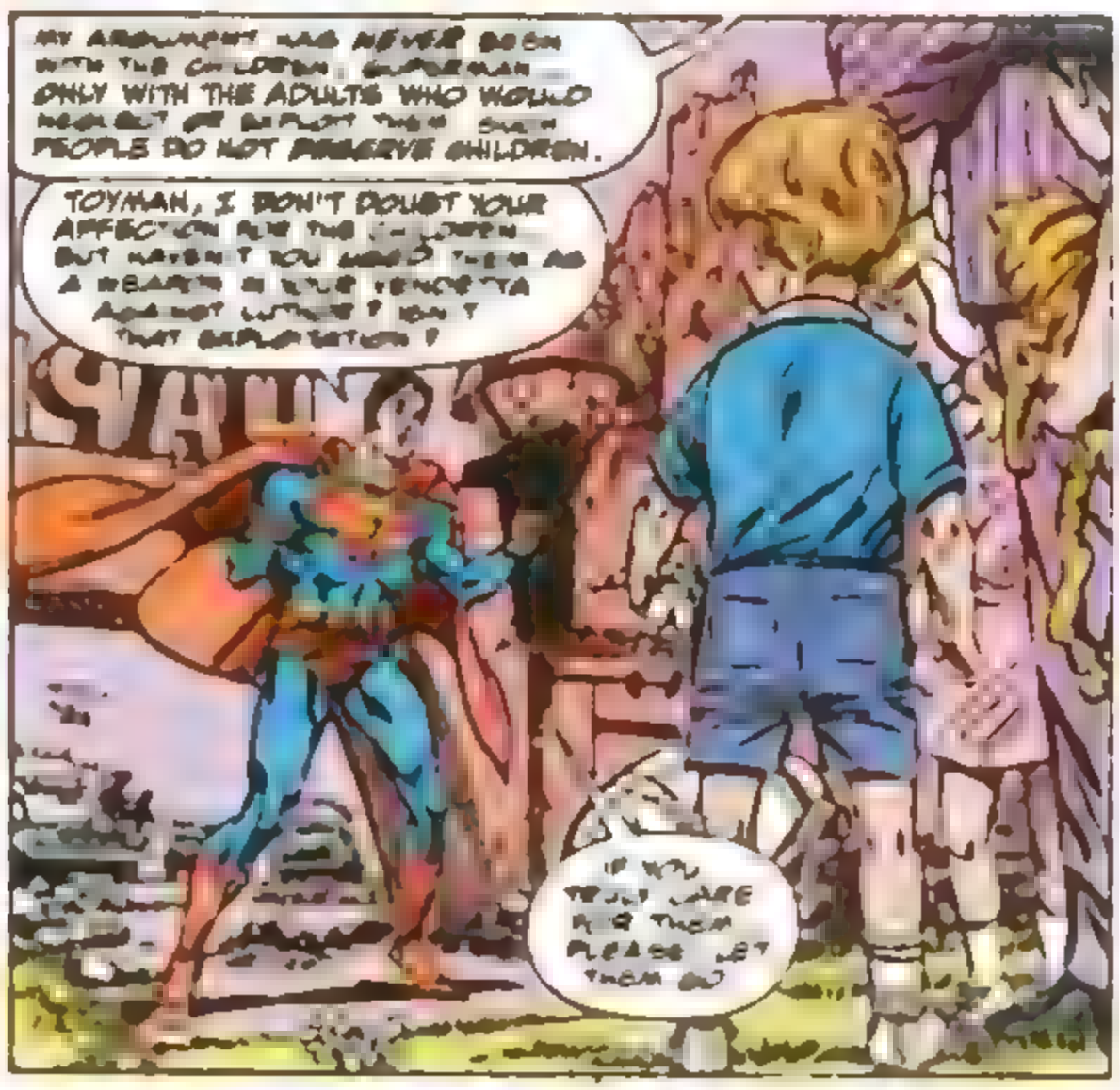
THEIR GUNS... THEIR BATTLE ARMOR... IT'S ALL SHUTTING DOWN OR SHORTING OUT!

WHAT IS GOING ON?

SO, SUPERMAN...
BOY, LORD!


HE MEET FACE TO FACE AT LAST. I MUST WARN YOU TO STAY BACK! MY BE-LOVED ARE NOW FROM ENHANCED
IT IS SUPERMAN NOW
BETTER CHOOSE MY WORDS CARE-FULLY. THIS FUNNY LITTLE MAN HAS KILLED SEVERAL PEOPLE.
I DON'T WANT ANY TROUBLE TOYMAN DON'T HURT THE CHILDREN--!
"DON'T HURT THE CHILDREN" MY WHAT ELSE CAN YOU TAKE ME FOR?
I WILL NOT ABIDE ANYONE WHO HARMS A CHILD. AS THIS BOY AND I HAVE YOU

I USED THE RESOURCES AT MY CONTROL TO CREATE A WONDROUS LAND FOR THESE TYKES, A PLACE WHERE THEY WOULD FIND FUN AND COMPANIONSHIP. AND THEY LIKE IT--DON'T YOU?
YEAH!
I'D RATHER!


MY ARGUMENT HAS NEVER BEEN WITH THE CHILDREN, SUPERMAN. ONLY WITH THE ADULTS WHO WOULD MISUSE OR EXPLOIT THEM. SUCH PEOPLE DO NOT DESERVE CHILDREN.
TOYMAN, I DON'T DOUBT YOUR AFFECTION FOR THE CHILDREN BUT HAVEN'T YOU USED THEM AS A WEAPON IN YOUR VENDETTA AGAINST LUTHOR? DON'T THAT EXPLOITATION?
IF YOU TRULY CARE FOR THEM PLEASE LET THEM GO

AND NEGLECT? BACK TO PARENTS TOO WRAPPED UP IN THEMSELVES, TOO BUSY WITH CAREERS TO PAY ANY ATTENTION TO THEIR OWN FLESH AND BLOOD?

THAT'S MY DAUGHTER HE WAS HENDERSON!

JUDY!

JUDY IT'S US!

I LOVE YOU JUDY

DADDY!

DADDY!

DADDY!

DAD

YOU SEE, TOYMAN? THESE KIDS DON'T PREFER YOUR TOYS TO THEIR PARENTS--

--FAR FROM IT

THEY JUST WANT THEIR PARENTS TO LOVE THEM.

--BUT I DON'T THINK IT WILL BE ANY LONGER

PERHAPS YOU ARE RIGHT. I PRAY THAT YOU ARE IT'S A TERRIBLE THING TO BE LONELY

A TERRIBLE THING

END

Superman Post-Crisis Chronology
Volume 038 Soul Search

"Survival!", first appeared in Action Comics issue #655, released May, 1990
Roger Stern (writer), Bob McLeod (penciller), Kerry Gammill (penciller), Brett Breeding (inker), Dennis Janke (inker)

"Men of Steel", first appeared in Captain Atom issue #46, released August, 1990
Cary Bates (writer), Art Adams (penciller), Ed Hannigan (penciller), Romeo Tanghal (inker)

"The World of Tomorrow", first appeared in Superman issue #46, released June, 1990
(writer), Dan Jurgens (penciller), Dennis Janke (inker), Jerry Ordway (inker)

"Nasty Boys", first appeared in The Adventures of Superman issue #469, released June, 1990
Dan Jurgens (writer), Dan Jurgens (penciller), Art Thibert (inker)

"Soul Search, Part One of Three: Going to Blazes", first appeared in Action Comics issue #656, released June, 1990
Roger Stern (writer), Bob McLeod (penciller), Kerry Gammill (penciller), Brett Breeding (inker)

"Lives in the Balance", first appeared in Superman issue #47, released July, 1990
(writer), Jerry Ordway (penciller), Dennis Janke (inker)

"...Like a Woman Scorned!", first appeared in The Adventures of Superman issue #470, released July, 1990
Dan Jurgens (writer), Art Thibert (penciller), Dan Jurgens (penciller), Art Thibert (inker), Brett Breeding (inker)

"There is a Happy Land... Far, Far Away", first appeared in Action Comics issue #657, released July, 1990
Roger Stern (writer), Kerry Gammill (penciller), Brett Breeding (inker)

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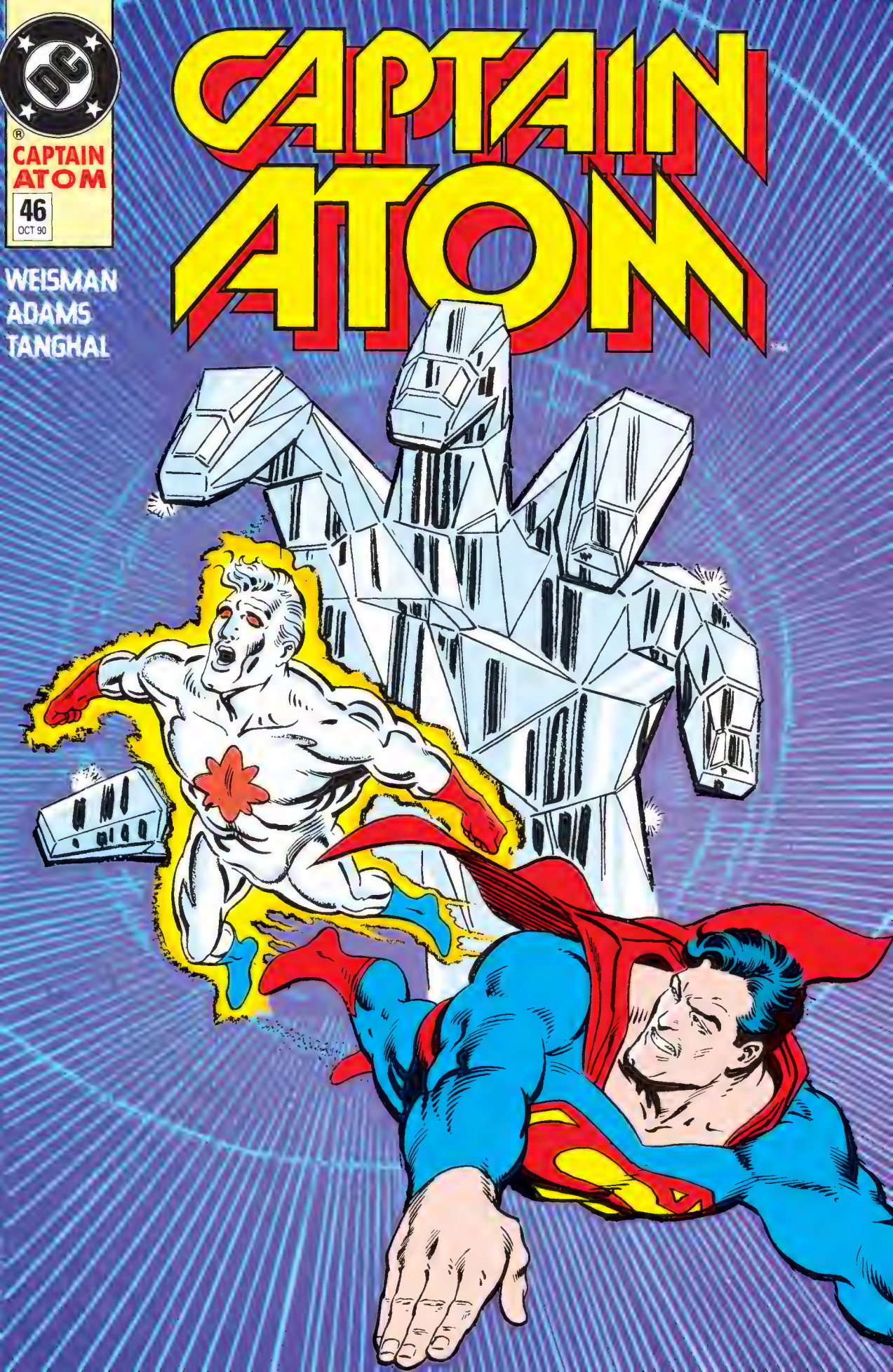
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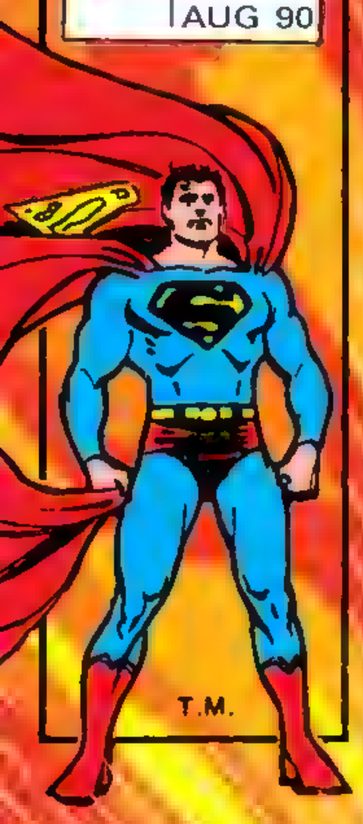

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